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# Latin America Report

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8 November 1985

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CARTAGENA GROUP CONSIDERS BUILDING UP ANDEAN RESERVE FUND

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 p A-15

[Text] The FAR [Andean Reserve Fund], the financial agency of the Cartagena Pact's Subregional System, has been alleviating some of the temporary balance-of-payment problems of the member Central Banks and, as of 30 June 1985, had earnings of \$45 million, but the defaults on the part of members of the Andean Pact are hindering its growth.

The FAR, which is made up of the Central Banks of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, will--according to the headlines of the day--have to be buttressed this year, if the member governments approve the proposals being considered under the draft protocol of the Cartagena Pact submitted to the member countries by the Junta, which have not as yet been made public.

The agency began its operations on 8 June 1978. It has its headquarters in Bogota. It was formed on 12 November 1976. Its permanent staff consists of only 10 officials. Its subscribed capital is \$400 million, of which Peru's share is \$100 million.

Of this \$100 million, we have paid in \$91.818 million and have received balance-of-payment credits of \$146.25 million, according to the most recently available statistics.

In 1982, a loan of \$195 million to Peru was approved to bolster our 1982 balance-of-payments position. This loan is now being amortized. Prior to this, in 1979, Peru obtained a loan of \$32 million.

Almost all the Central Banks, except Venezuela's, have been lent funds by the FAR: Bolivia \$52.5 million; Colombia \$229 million; Ecuador \$122 million; and Peru \$227 million.

The most recent loan is the one granted to Colombia, in the amount of \$229 million, equivalent to 2.49 times the capital paid into the FAR by that country. The repayment term was 4 years plus a 1-year grace period.



Conceived to resolve temporary imbalances in balance-of-payment accounts, and as a mechanism for financing intraregional trade, the FAR has current assets of \$758 million, a working capital of \$437.869, and a paid-in capital of \$325 million.

As of the middle of this year, according to the 1984-1985 annual report, the FAR's revenues totaled \$80.5 million and its expenditures, including interest payments on central-bank deposits, were \$35.495 million. However, owing to the defaults by the members of the Cartagena Pact, its growth aims have not been converted into realities, despite initiatives like that of the Andean Peso, proposed with a view to using less dollars in intraregional trade and increasing regional liquidity.

FAR experts pointed out recently that "It must be emphasized that neither the Andean Peso nor any other mechanism for increasing liquidity can, in itself, rekindle the subregional trade dynamic as long as acute macroeconomic imbalances continue to exist in each country, and as long as the trend toward extreme protectionism is not corrected."

#### Junta's Protocol and the FAR

The Technical Secretariat of the FAR, in a commentary on the Junta's draft protocol, indicated that "The legal framework for dealing with temporary balance-of-payment problems must be broadened, and an interim regimen for management of the present situation must be instituted, to bring order to the present chaos of defaults and protectionist measures."

It adds that "Recent experience shows that a monetary exchange crisis can give rise to a legal and economic crisis in Andean trade."

In support of these affirmations, it points out that "The legal framework provided by the Pact does not have the necessary flexibility for dealing with balance-of-payment problems," and that, moreover, "There is no leeway for making temporary exceptions."

To this end, it is suggested that there be instituted "Some mechanism for fostering negotiations in the event the situation (of defaults and protectionist measures) persists."

The FAR experts add that it is essential to "stipulate clearly the conditions that define a balance-of-payments problem and its temporariness," and to "provide procedures (which the draft protocol terms 'market management agreements') to manage temporarily the situations created by the defaults of recent years."

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ANDEAN FUND HEAD ELECTED--Peru, for the second time, will be heading the FAR [Andean Reserve Fund] during the 1985-1987 period. The Peruvian BCR's [Central Reserve Bank('s)] candidate, Guillermo Castaneda Mungi, was elected to the post by a majority of the delegates of the other member central banks. The election took place this past weekend in Bogota, where the FAR headquarters is located. Castaneda will replace Raul Salazar Olivares, former head of the BCR's Economic Studies Section and former executive director of the IMF [International Monetary Fund] for Peru. The new president of the FAR worked at the BCR during the 1970's decade and took post-graduate courses in Great Britain. Subsequently, he worked in the Latin American Department of the World Bank. Until last week, he worked as a private consultant. During the first quarter of 1985, at the request of Luis Alva Castro, who was then president of the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] government's CONAPLAN [National Planning Commission], Castaneda drew up the working plans for dealing with the foreign debt. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Sep 85 p A-15] 9399

CSO: 3348/11

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

SPEECHES AT ACLM PUBLIC MEETING REPORTED

St Johns OUTLET in English 30 Aug 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

On Thursday 22nd August the ACLM held a public meeting of historic significance in All Saints Village.

The meeting, which was attended mainly by young workers and small farmers from the village and surrounding areas like Liberta, English Harbour and Sea View Farm, marked a deepening extension of ACLM's campaign of political mobilization. The highly attentive audience heard ACLM speakers outline the basic principles of the ACLM and the party's programme for rural agro-industrial transformation and the development of a national economy.

During the meeting, members of the audience kept the spirit of solidarity alive by interjecting comments and adding other points to the discussion.

The development potential of All Saints and the Central region was touched on by all speakers. Giving an outline of the ACLM programme for transforming the countryside, ACLM Political leader Tim Hector spoke about the failure of the Bird Regime to develop the industrial potential of the Antigua Black pineapple, often described as the sweetest in the world. He noted that despite the fact that the South Central region had

the conditions for the large scale production of pineapples nothing has been done to develop this potential resource.

The ACLM Chairman in a brilliant address told the All Saints Meeting that an ACLM government would demonstrate how an agro-industrial programme, with industries based on the agricultural produce of the area, could be initiated and developed. He spoke of co-operative development with an active programme of support from the government. "Instead of taking away peoples lands", he said "ACLM would give the land to the small farmers to operate on a co-operative basis."

On the question of the foreign debt, the ACLM Chairman exposed the Bird regime's lack of investment policy, which resulted in mal-spending and corruption. He showed that for 2 projects only, the Bird regime had borrowed \$276 million. "Money", he said, "which could be used to develop a programme of scientific agriculture for the creation of productive employment, for housing schemes and to fulfill other vital social and economic needs, would be going to foreign banks as debt repayment." He brought a loud and prolonged applause when he described BIRD as Backwardness, Ignorance, Retrogres-

sion and Disaster.

Radcliffe Robins, a veterinarian by training and scientist by inclination analysed the deplorable health system in Antigua. He stirred the meeting with the news that Antigua was 2,000 years behind the development goal we would need to attain in order to provide employment, food and shelter for all the people. He demonstrated with the authority of World Health Organisation (WHO) statistics that Antigua was short of over 100 doctors. Whereas the WHO recognised as adequate and necessary a 1: 340 doctor - population ratio, in Antigua the ratio is 1:2,600. He said that this, plus the fact that Antigua was in need of a modern hospital resulted in prolonged illnesses and unnecessary deaths. ACLM he said would develop a modern health service for the working people since it was the poor who suffered most under the present system.

Other speakers at the meeting were ACLM General Secretary Harold Lovell, who spoke on the question of Foreign Domination and the National Economy; Adlai Carrott who discussed "Law and Injustice in Antigua" and Jerome Bleau who chaired the night's meeting.

/8309

CSO: 3298/68

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

ACLM ORGAN ATTACKS BIRD ADMINISTRATION MOVES

Debit Spending

St Johns OUTLET in English 30 Aug 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

The Bird Government in a secret decision, still unknown to several members of Cabinet, has decided to buy the Hadeed Building on Redcliffe and Market Streets.

The decision to buy the building and the subsequent negotiations have reached almost the final stages, and the Bird government is expected to pay some \$10.5 million dollars for the building.

The old section of the Hadeed Building which presently houses the Ministry of Labour has been occupied by the Government since 1977 on a lease rental basis.

Laying the propaganda foundation for the purchase of the Hadeed Building, Finance Minister John E. St Luce, announced this week that government is willing to cut back on its high rental bill which amounts to some \$1.5 million annually. This is the first confirmation of the Outlet story published in 1984 about Government's massive rental bill.

However, Finance Minister St Luce, in a rare public interview on the electronic media, did not give any indication that the Government intended to purchase the Hadeed building and that negotiations were reaching the point of completion.

The Hadeed building to which a new wing is in the final stages of construction, is said by independent appraisers approached by Outlet, to value about \$7 million and there is little ground, said Public Works sources, for government purchase of this building.

In 1983, government purchased from the firm of George Bennett Bryson and Co. Ltd its former soft-drinks factory on lower High Street and St Mary's Street at a figure of \$3 million.

Government still has the old Treasury and Library building on High Street which was damaged in the October 8th 1974 earthquake, "in an excellent spot" said the Public Works high official source. Continuing the Public Works source, said "There is no reason whatsoever why government would want to burden itself with a further huge debt, with a building which could not meet its own debt payments".

The Public Works source said that an office complex could be constructed at either the old Bryson's Bottling plant site, or at the Library-Treasury site. Elaborating, the Public Works source said, "that the pur-



chase of the Hadeed building would provide no work for construction workers at Public Works; who recently did an excellent job renovating the new Ministry of Finance on upper High Street. This shows a complete lack of employment policy' said the Public Works high official source.

Asked by Outlet why the Hadeed Building deal was being pursued now, the source speculated that the Hadeed's might have over-extended themselves financially with renovation and building new rooms at their recently acquired BeachComber Hotel, and the construction of a massive Lumber store cum Garage for Hadeed Motors.

The Public Works High official felt that Government might be bailing out Hadeed with this massive \$10.5 million dollar purchase.

The Public Works source insisted that this is the second time that the Bird government would be bailing out Hadeed and referred to the massive sum (\$300,000) that the Bird government paid the Hadeed's in 1976 for the purchase of land on Old Parham Road to build a factory shell, when the Hadeed's had bought the same land from government for less than \$20,000 somewhere in 1969-70.

in another Hadeed building. The figure which appears staggering was repeated twice by Prime Minister Bird.

The Hadeed's would not comment on the undisclosed purchase of their Redcliffe Street Building. However, sources close to them have pointed out that the Hadeeds have always been willing to re-invest their profits in Antigua, whereas Lebanese and other foreign entrepreneurs either hoard their profits, or repatriate them depriving Antigua & Barbuda of development capital and investment opportunities.

Even the Workers' Voice, organ of the industrial arm of the ruling party has been lamenting the "exceedingly high national debt" and was up in arms about the government's hitherto undisclosed efforts to purchase 50% (why not 51%!) of Cable & Wireless.

This new 10 million dollar debt for the purchase of the Hadeed Building, when Government is at its wits end to meet its monthly recurrent expenditure, would seem to be dictated by considerations other than the national development consideration.

Hadeed sources insist that no kickbacks will be paid to any government official on the purchase of the building, and while the source would not confirm or deny the Outlet figure of 11 million, they said that they were not willing to sell, but government would acquire if they refused. The source insisted that there were no kickbacks.

Even the Workers Voice lamented the situation where Government was entering into huge financial transactions without public information or parliamentary approval. Said the normally servile Workers Voice on the Cable & Wireless purchase "This is public business and we expect your public information department to keep the public informed on such matters".

Obviously, the public does not figure in Bird's one Party State. Autocrats rule without public knowledge or information and in complete disregard of public opinion.



## Tax Burden

St Johns OUTLET in English 27 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

When the Bird regime is not using Parliament to pass its anti-worker laws, such as the Industrial Court Amendment Act, or its Treason Act, you can be certain that it is presiding over the passage of increased taxes.

In its latest sitting the one-party Parliament dropped the hammer of heavy taxes on the unsuspecting public. The Budget, which in every other country is used as the means of raising taxes, did not indicate any increase in taxation. Besides figures of revenue and expenditure the Bird Government uses the Budget for political propaganda rather than a statement of fiscal policy.

The 1985 Budget delivered on March 7, showed according to John St Luce, Minister of Finance, increased collection of revenue, and gave no hint of massive tax increases to come. The new increases were sneakily increased and passed in Parliament in a single half-day session. There was no Parliamentary Opposition to alert public attention. Thus the Bird One-Party State continues its rule by trickery. And when trickery fails, it relies on autocratic powers.

Now the Bird regime is clearly trapped in a debt-ridden and stagnant economy, it has resorted to heavy taxes, bringing them in like a thief in the night.

In the Antigua and Barbuda Revenue (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1985, no fewer than FIFTEEN amendments, and sizeable increases were made to existing tax legislation.

The Amendment to the Vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance sees increases in the licence rates for motor cycles,

cars, cars used as taxis, trucks and goods vehicles, including jeeps and public and service vehicles. Previously, all motor cyclists paid a fee of \$30.00 annually, now they are classified. Owners or riders with motor cycles 125cc or less will pay \$40.00, those with cycles over 125cc but less than 251cc, \$50.00 while those in the 501cc and over must pay \$100.00 annually an increase of over 200 percent.

Motor car drivers must now pay \$30.00 a year, an increase of 30 percent or \$75.00 for three years for a drivers licence, a learners permit can now be obtained for \$20.00 for six months while the fee for registration of motor vehicles moves from \$30.00 to \$50.00 an increase of 60 percent.

Amendments were also made to the Embarkation Tax Ordinance. Locals must now pay \$10.00 instead of \$6.00 while the embarkation tax for visitors is increased from \$10.00 to \$15.00.

The Amendment to the Professionals Licensing Act has met with disfavour among many professionals. Previously, all professionals paid a licence fee of \$1,000.00 annually. Now, they are categorised. Those practicing for 5 years or less will now pay a fee of \$2,000.00, those in practice for 5 years but less than 10 years will pay \$3,500.00 while professionals in private practice for 10 or more years must pay a licence fee of \$5,000.00.

Moreover, if a professional does not pay the licence fee, the fine is increased from \$200.00 to \$10,000.

and if after that the fee is still not paid, then the penalty increases from \$50.00 to \$500.00 per day. Reliable sources claim that the Cabinet refused to consider the recommendations made by professionals. This Government is not responsible or accountable to the governed.

Other tax increases affect retail licences for small shop-keepers which are increased by 25% per quarter, with a similar percentage increase for the sale of beer. Bottle and tavern licences as well as importers licences are also increased.

These increased taxes will no doubt affect the entire society as increased prices for professional, taxi and bus services, and goods, will be inevitable. As the cost of living spirals, increased deprivation among the population and social decay must result.

The Bird regime has been caught in its own trap of deceit and maladministration. When they transact their illegal loans, go on their wasteful joyrides, pay exorbitant sums to the Guyanese mercenary Lloyd Luckhoo to persecute Outlet's Editor Tim Hector, and rape the treasury to purchase vehicles by the dozens, it is the public who must be made to pay.

/8309

CSO: 3298/68

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

UNION CONFERENCES HEAR SPEAKERS ON PROGRAM GOALS

AWU Meeting

St Johns OUTPUT in English 27 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

The Antigua Workers Union (AWU) at its annual General Conference scheduled for September 22 and 23, heard calls from acting President Baldwin Spencer and General Secretary Keithlyn Smith for unity of the political opposition in Antigua.

In a thoughtful and brilliant opening address acting President of the AWU Baldwin Spencer told the gathering of worker delegates and invited guests that "We have reached a stage in the country where the progressive forces have to be brought together in the interest of the suffering masses, and for the peace, progress and development of this country, for the people, by the people".

Spencer told the assembled delegates that Antigua was in deep crisis, a crisis of redundancies, a crisis of unemployment, a crisis in the Trade Union movement whose operations have been reduced to nothing by anti-labour repressive laws which denies Union rights.

He noted that the days of Buccaneering are not over, only that Morgan and his pirates now come in different forms.

Said Mr Spencer, "Buccaneering comes in different forms. Admittedly not any longer on the high seas. The Buccaneers and pirates now come in the form of foreign investors and multinationals."

He said that Prime Minister V.C. Bird has from time to time expounded the official view "that now that plantation exploitation has come to an end, the task of the Trade Union Movement has come to an end". Mr Spencer continued and showed the assembled delegates and guests that the very Trade Union movement, and the very leaders which fought the British planters, have now turned round as Government and subordinate workers and Trade Unions in the interest of American business, even more harshly than under colonialism.

Mr Spencer did not spare himself or his Union criticism and posed the question "whether the working class has failed itself in terms of its own consciousness and solidarity in defense of its own interests, or whether the leadership of the Unions has failed the working class in terms of failing to educate in the era of independence and nationhood?"

In consequence said the Acting AWU President "Even the rights and freedoms enjoyed by workers and workers' organizations under colonialism, those very rights are denied workers and worker organisations under independence"

In the face of this all encompassing crisis, the AWU, said Baldwin Spencer, has to play a role in bringing the progressive forces together, in order to bring about a change, a change which will ensure Antiguan and Antiguan workers "greater say in the industries which comprise the commanding heights of the economy."

In his turn General Secretary Keithlyn Smith pointed out to the gathering that the recent Appeal Court judgement which ruled "that from the moment when the document was filed with the Industrial Court and he placed his stamp thereon, it was a pending proceeding before the Court" and therefore all industrial action should cease. This ruling said Mr Smith, virtually abolished the Right to strike. But, said Mr Smith, "If you can't use the strike weapon, you must use something else".

In view of the total crisis, in view of the fear of state power which now grips the working class, it was necessary for "opposition political forces, to sink all past differences and to create a single political force which can bring about change in the country".

Mr Smith also showed the assembled workers and guests at the AWU's 19th annual Conference that all the "top positions in the country and in industry are held by expatriates". Mr Smith elaborated on a central point in the Union's Conference document that "The ills created by the lack of job opportunities and insecurity of employment were further compounded by Government's policy of allowing foreigners, mostly from developed countries,

to occupy top positions in industries. Upward mobility for nationals is almost non-existent. Our people are left to perform menial tasks. The policy of industrialization by invitation has merely created positions of maids and that of servants [i sweat shop jobs] for our people".

As an example of how ascendant foreign employers are under the Bird regime, Keithlyn Smith revealed that a worker was recently fired because "she did not jerri-curl her hair."

The calls for opposition unity by the AWU follow on the heels of a similar call made by the NDP Leader Ivor Heath, at a public meeting last Thursday in which he called for opposition unity to include ACLM, AWU, and NDP.

ACLM has not publicly reacted to these calls for unity issuing separately from the AWU and the NDP.

ACLM is cautious, after the bitter experience of 1980 and 1984. In 1984 negotiations were complete for opposition unity when the unity, after being announced, was torpedoed by a sudden and inexplicable fall out. ACLM believes that local opposition forces can unite, but foreign powers, will use influence among the other parties to break up any such unity. This can only be avoided by active participation of workers, women, farmers, youth and leadership to preserve and develop that unity.

However in spite of the calls for opposition unity no talks among the parties have been instituted.

ACLM Public Relations Vice Chairman Jerome Bleau, gave the official response of ACLM to the opposition unity call as "Twice bitten, doubly shy".



Mr Bleau said however, that "once such opposition unity seems meaningful, as opposed to opportunist or a ruse by some foreign power, ACLM will be less cautious and would probably be willing to engage in such discussions".

#### ATLU Meeting

St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 2 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

The 46th Annual Conference of the Antigua Trades and Labour Union came to a successful conclusion on Monday, 30th September, 1985. Over three hundred delegates attended the two-day Conference which was held at Emancipation House, 46th North Street.

The Conference was declared open by Comrade Leader the Rt. Hon. V.C. Bird, a past President of the Union and presently Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda. In his usual dynamic form when addressing members of the Antigua Trades and Labour Union, the Prime Minister reminded delegates present that the entire infrastructure of Antigua and Barbuda came about as a result of the efforts of the Antigua Trades & Labour Union. He invited delegates to look around, and that all the improvements and changes that they see, were brought about by the Union.

In reference to Dr. Heath and his N.D.P. he said that they wanted to bring back the old days when workers would have to sweep the yards of the middle class in order to get to work on the steamers. He also said that the middle class never accepted the fact that political power passed from the Colonials straight to the working class. He implored members to be watchful and not to be fooled again.

The Conference was also addressed by the Junior Minister of Health, Comrade Eustace Cochrane, who reminded delegates of the struggle prior to 1971 and called on them to make sure that a price like that is not repeated. He said that workers should be loyal to their organization and that the Union should be always militant in their quest for workers' rights in this country.

The President welcomed the delegates and related some problems which the Union was experiencing. He said that after the Conference there would be action and more action. The General Secretary also delivered an industrial report to the Conference.

Among the Government Ministers attending the Conference were Comrades D.C. Christian, Molwyn Joseph, A. Freeland, D. Sheppard and Deputy Speaker, Rodney Williams.

The President of the Union was unopposed. There were two changes made in the Executive Committee: Comrade Rufus Lewis replaced Comrade E. Dowdy as 2nd Vice President and Comrade A. Edwards was elected 3rd Vice President. Comrade Uriah Caleb replaced Comrade Rupert Lake as an Executive Member.

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CSO: 3298/68

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

ROLE OF POLICE, DRUG-LINKED MURDERS DISCUSSED

St Johns OUTLET in English 30 Aug 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Drugs and Murder!"]

[Text]

Since the Rev. Ralph Brown, an Anglican priest who gave distinguished service to this country as a teacher, guide and example of earnestness, conviction and belief to many, was murdered in the late seventies there have been a spate of murders, sometimes weird, often inexplicable, several unsolved.

Father Brown was the most significant of those to fall, shot through the neck one night. And that was that.

It was known that Father Brown had decided single-handedly to clean out a group of drug dealers out of Falmouth and English Harbour. As was his wont, he was systematic in his pursuit of his intent. He needed a telescope, he got one. He needed the law, he studied it and appeared in court in his own person. He needed data, he collected it.

We do not wish to suggest here that his murderers were drug dealers and that they were known and not brought to justice. It may not be so, it maybe so. The fact of the matter is that not a few believe this to be the case.

The latest murder which has aroused public attention and to some extent public ire, is the murder of Jesse David West, a popular auto-mechanic. A man has been arrested and charged so we will not go into details.

But somehow there were some strange goings-on. Government Radio announced that a Lebanese suspect was being sought. The same Government Radio corrected itself and said a Syrian suspect was being sought. The same government radio, the same week, apologised to the Lebanese and Syrian community for an inference that a Lebanese or Syrian was implicated.

True it is that the Syrian in question voluntarily returned to the island. True too, that he was out of the island at the time of the Jesse West murder. But the Police could have told the public this, rather than leave the awful taste in the public mouth, that somewhere, somehow, the high and mighty were covering up something.

The real truth of the matter is that the Police Force, is more a political force than a peace-keeping force.



It can harass political opponents of the government, this newspaper and its personnel in particular.

The Police can use elaborate communications equipment and huge numbers to invade a private conference of Caribbean women in a private building. It violates the law with impunity.

It can deport distinguished Churchmen and women who have international reputations and connections with brusque harshness and unreason.

It can even deport a Canadian diplomat because he sought, just sought, mark you, to hold discussions with ACLM's political leader.

Yet the same police fails to uphold the law, to investigate murders, and bring murderers before the bar of justice. Naturally this leaves a community insecure. Moreover it leaves a nation with the feeling that be it priest, retired British operative like Sarah Thompson or an ordinary Antiguan like Carol Matthew, whose body was washed up in the public harbour while he was watching a boat for government, that murder will go detected and unpunished, unless it is done in the open light of day and in public view.

Strikingly too, is the number of cases of murder which have gone undetected in which narcotics is in some way involved.

If the United States is alarmed about the volume of drug trafficking going on through Antigua; if the United States believes that the high and mighty and well established are somehow involved in this drug trafficking; then it seems to be a requirement that in the interest of the people of this country, some

full-scale Commission of Inquiry should be launched and the public satisfied that a serious attempt is being made to root out this clear and present danger.

The advent of cocaine into Antigua, suggests that there will be more murders, and more unsolved cases of murder. With a political police force, a government deeply involved with international crooks, it is certain that nothing will be done.

What is even more certain though is that as in Barbados some high and mighty Yardfowl will find himself in a Drug Trap and his death might awaken this nation to the gravity of the Drug danger, and the foundation of the unsolved murders.

The alternative to this is a new beginning. A new beginning which means leadership that will restore the Police to its proper function, peace-keeping and not political harassment. A new beginning under a new leadership which will put an end to the foul conduct and misbehaviour in public office which is our daily lot.

To be sure this cannot be provided by the usual U.S. sponsored party which will be merely Birdism without Bird. Mere professionals mouthing cliches. We have tried that before.

Without a thorough-going change, without a new perspective, without the idea that we must be economic masters in our own house in a new system of social ownership and control through a National Economy, Antigua will continue to drift, becoming a Gomorrah of Drugs and unsolved murders.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

HECTOR BLASTS U.S. AID, AREA MILITARIZATION

St Johns OUTLET in English 27 Sep 85 pp 6-7

[Tim Hector column "Fan the Flame": "On Lizards, Exotic Palms and the Regional State"]

[Excerpts]

This fellar Lester Bird, is insisting and persisting in seeking to engage me in some public fracas in the press. There is an age old saying that some people cannot see the wood because of the trees. In like manner the trouble with Lester Bird, word-smith that he is, is that you cannot get his sense because of his words. He produces and reproduces, remote controlled by Ron Sanders, a mountain of words in which it is difficult to find a mole-hill of sense. When he says something sensible without an unending stream of pointless invective, I will respond. Once I am convinced public education and knowledge will be advanced thereby. Not otherwise.

On the question of cricket and apartheid, Lester should be the last, the very last person to talk, let alone take a stand.

There are some even more serious matters taking place in the Caribbean at this moment in time which deserve Lester's attention, concerning trade and development and which relate directly to his ministerial responsibilities. He ought to leave sports to the Minister of sports and attend with all his

voluminous words to these real and pressing issues.

U.S. official figures have shown unmistakably a 20 per cent drop in exports from the Caribbean region to the U.S. from the 21 beneficiaries of CBI in the first six (6) months of this year! Astonishing, but true.

CBI is working to the advantage of the U.S., and definitely to the grave disadvantage of the Caribbean region.

What does Lester have to say about this? Absolutely nothing.

The most U.S. favoured nation in the region, Jamaica, had its exports to the U.S. fall from U.S.\$288.7 million in the first six months of 1984 to U.S.\$165.8 million in the first half of this year! The collapse is irreversible. Barbados' exports to the U.S. also fell from U.S.\$143.7 to U.S.\$109.2.

The Rightist CARICOM Governments, in the face of this deteriorating terms of trade, to the disadvantage of the Region, and to the advantage of the U.S. have been caught tongue-tied and

flat-footed. Rightist CARICOM Governments squealed to the U.S. that its trade protectionist measures had made development planning on the basis of the CBI "virtually impossible". So indeed.

If Lester Bird in particular, as Minister of Economic Development, had taken note of my immediate responses to the CBI 19 months ago, he and Antigua would have been better prepared to challenge, and would have seen it as I characterised it, "Reagans's shallow Caribbean Basin Initiative".

If you look at the statistics Antigua is even more embarrassed. 75 projects in Jamaica under the CBI have created a paltry 4,621 jobs not even 1% of employment. 31 projects in Santo Domingo under the CBI have created 4,456 jobs according to the U.S. Commerce Department less than 1/2 percent in employment terms! Even for Haiti there was created under the CBI a meagre 2,144 jobs or 0.36 per cent employment.

Where is Antigua in all this? Nil percent. It is obvious that on the fundamentals of his work, economic development, Lester as always, produces a Mount Everest of words, and a Sahara desert in terms of results. Le pauvre homme!

In truth, in Antigua, in 1985, he provides jobs for Italian construction workers, while Antiguan workers must suck the salt of unemployment! What a situation! Could there be greater mal-administration?

There is more to this. The United States imposed, with no justification in law whatsoever, a totally illegal trade embargo on Nicaragua. In consequence, Nicaragua had to sell its bananas cheap in Europe. These Nicaraguan bananas have made East Caribbean bananas totally uncompetitive. The Windwards Islands economies, in a tailspin before, are now spinning like top in mud.

What was the U.S. response to all this? The U.S. got certain Latin American puppets loyal to it to export bananas to Britain and other European countries to affect Nicaragua penetrating the European Market. This caused Winban's London Representative to report and record that the U.S. sponsored Latin American bananas into Britain, in particular, were being brought into Britain at prices "which could not pay for the freight". As a result Windward Island bananas can only be used to bang dog as we say.

Therefore the Banana economies of the Eastern Caribbean cannot sell bananas, and economic depression has become permanent, with no prospect of relief.

What does Lester Bird have to say, and how do Caribbean Governments respond to this dilemma? Before we answer that, let us give more details of this crisis. Barbados has, like Antigua, continued to experience a slump in the manufacturing sector and has had to revise, downwards, its estimate of economic growth from 2.1 per cent!

Antigua is in an even worse position, but given Lester Bird's capacity for double-speak he will have cause to be published, aired and telecast some outrageous economic growth figures which cannot be substantiated in fiction let alone in fact! Always double-speak from such as Lester, never truth.

But in the face of this decline in tourism, in manufacturing, in trade with the U.S., how does the Antigua Government and other CARICOM Governments respond?

An untold number of U.S. and British troops took in tow, the military establishments of Barbados, Jamaica, Antigua and other OECS States. St Vincent, to Mitchell's great credit, refused to go along.

The military exercises, code-named, EXOTIC PALM involved a mock invasion of St Lucia. When the U.S. War-Lord, for the Caribbean, Admiral Hedges, announced the military exercises, this is how St Lucia's Prime Minister Compton responded: "We have stated time and time again that we are concerned about the militarisation of the region, AND WE WANT IT DEMILITARISED .. WE DO NOT LIKE THIS EMPHASIS ON THE MILITARY. Our problems are NOT military. They are economic and social".

Though the problems are economic and NOT military, though the Region needs to be "DEMILITARISED" the very leaders, like Lester Bird and Compton, the supreme charlatans, rat on their own people and are bent, hell-bent if you ask, on colluding with the U.S. to impose Military solutions on the economic and social problems of the area which cry out for political solutions.

How does it look to the world, at this time, when the U.S. is constructively engaged, with a two billion expensive engagement ring, to apartheid; how does it appear when Britain is firmly allied with a 12 billion dollar alliance ring to apartheid; that white American and British troops are at the very same time engaged in military exercises with the Black Caribbean? It is absurd in the extreme.

How do you think black South Africans struggling with stick and stones against tanks and fearsome artillery, must feel about these Black countries that are being drawn into military exercises with the U.S. and Britain, both of which powers are firmly behind white supremacy in South Africa? It is ridiculous to the nth degree.

Instead these Caribbean goon squads in power vent their spleen on Gooch the cricketer, but join the steadfast allies of apartheid, in of all things, military exercises! They have no shame, and of principle, they never heard.

Just think of it, Barbados has never attacked Trinidad, never was there war between St Kitts and Antigua; nor is there ever likely to be war between Caribbean territories. No Caribbean territory has ever threatened war on another, neither French territory against Dutch, nor Spanish against English. And yet we persist in the folly of military exercises. To make war with whom, for whom and for what? This is the more outrageous, when we fully recognise, that what is needed most now, are ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EXERCISES to rout our pressing economic and social problems. That is the war, the exercise we need to engage in - Unity for social, economic and thus political transformation.

What is needed is a programme to send exotic fruits and plants to the U.S. and not military exercises code-named Exotic Palm.

It is this Exotic folly which Lester and his Rightist peers in the Caribbean need to get out of their heads, or get their heads out - period!

One thing is certain the people of the Caribbean will in time box this folly out of their heads, by insisting that they no longer head these island-nation States. In the fullness of time the people will move to replace them with new leaders who want to create a Regional Caribbean State as a Zone of Peace.

Only a Regional State, declared a Zone of Peace, can correct the total break-down of these non-viable island economies, hell bent on militarisation. The U.S. knows that too. Hence it seeks to militarise the region, to keep us poor and backward, as its militarised backyard. Lester approves of this. I do not. That is the heart and rub of our struggle and antagonism. So be it.



8 November 1985

## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

## BRIEFS

NEW AUSTRIAN ENVOY--The new ambassador of the Republic of Austria to Antigua and Barbuda Dr. Alfred Missong has concluded a round of official engagements in St. John's. Dr. Missong presented his credentials to the Governor General Sir Wilfred Jacobs and paid courtesy calls on both the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Vere Bird and Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Lester Bird. His engagements on Tuesday included a call on the Education Minister Hon. Reuben Harris as well as meetings with representatives of foreign missions. [Text]  
[St Johns NATION'S VOICE in English 27 Sep 85 p 6]

NETHERLANDS AID--Government is soon to receive another shipment of seed white potatoes from the Royal Netherlands government. The disclosure comes from the Director of Agriculture, Mr. Francis Henry. He says the Ministry has just received word that the Netherlands government has decided to grant a further request for 5-thousand pounds of seed potatoes. According to Mr. Henry the seed potatoes, to be used as planting material, will be given to selected farmers and grown on government projects. The idea he says is to assess the yield performance and develop a production package with a view of establishing commercial outlets around the island. Late last year the Royal Netherlands government gave Antigua and Barbuda some 4-thousand pounds of seed white potatoes. Mr. Henry says the results of the first shipment have been quite satisfying...and indications are that Antigua and Barbuda could develop a profitable white potato industry for local consumption. [Text] [St Johns NATION'S VOICE in English 27 Sep 85 p 6]

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CSO: 3298/70

BAHAMAS

TIGHT SECURITY FOR 41 GOVERNMENT HEADS AT COMMONWEALTH MEETING

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Juliette Storr]

[Text]

FORTY-ONE heads of government have confirmed they will attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government conference next month, for which security "is going to be tight."

The announcement was made this morning by Hugh Craft, Director of International Affairs for the Commonwealth Secretariat. Mr Craft said he is happy with the progress of the preparations during these final and "most crucial" weeks.

Mr Craft, addressing a press conference this morning at Queens Court, said the meeting will be a matter of great celebration for the Bahamas, which will host the meeting and the visit of Her Majesty the Queen.

"When senior delegates are visiting a country (vice presidents, presidents and prime ministers will be here in considerable numbers), it is a magnificent test to the Bahamas and recognition by the international community of its respect and admiration of a small commonwealth country like the Bahamas being able to host such a meeting. It is a tribute to the government itself and represents a most historic occasion for the Bahamas," he said.

Harold Munnings, conference coordinator, said security arrangements will be adequate. However, he could not reveal what security measures would be taken as "it would defeat the

purpose." He said the visitors will get all the protection they demand and "security is going to be tight."

Discussing the outline of the upcoming meeting, Mr Craft said the conference will centre around three broad traditional areas - the world political scene; international economic issues; and commonwealth functions and co-operation.

The first category he said will take an overall view of politics in general and will discuss three specific areas: global trends and prospects where general questions related to international security and peace and political stability will be discussed; the realities of world situations as they exist today; and the question of South Africa and apartheid.

Developments in South Africa and the South African region in general he said have become the focal point of international attention in recent months. He said the Commonwealth position on South Africa and apartheid is well known. He saw a particular responsibility and commitment by the commonwealth to the freedom of Namibia, which wants its independence so that it can be a member of the commonwealth. The conference he said will also address the issue of economic sanctions against South Africa.

The issue of security needs for small states will also be

discussed. This came about he said because of the Grenada issue, which preceded the New Delhi conference. A special study, he said, was conducted on the needs of small states with emphasis on their security. A consultant group under the chairmanship of the Bahamas Chief Justice Telford Georges was set up to discuss the study, which has been published.

International economic issues also will be discussed during the heads of government meeting, in particular monetary flow, debt problems, new trade grounds, technology and development, women and development and the economic crisis in sub-Saharan Africa.

The co-operation items, he said, are regarded as straightforward and will comprise issues such as the question of the commonwealth funds, view of commonwealth development programmes for youth and women, and technological foundations.

Accessibility by the press to the heads of governments will not be restricted, however the executive sessions will be closed meetings and the press will be briefed after every session. "This is due to the changing in the world which means security can't be helped. However there will be a number of opportunities for the press to meet with the heads," said Bill Kalis, public relations coordinator.



BAHAMAS

## FNM MAINTAINS ATTACKS ON PINDLING; LONDON TIMES CITED

### Isaacs on PLP Divisions

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 23 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER Lynden Pindling has serious problems in the PLP, Opposition leader Kendal Isaacs charged today.

Mr Isaacs said that Sir Lynden's absence from a weekend banquet honouring deputy leader Arthur Hanna for 25 years in frontline politics highlighted the division in the PLP.

He said the fact that so many people turned up to honour Mr Hanna and the crowd response to Cooper's Town MP Hubert Ingraham is a clear indication that the dissidents are admired not only because of their personalities, but because they have right on their side.

Meanwhile, PLP chairman Sean McWeeney today declined to comment on Sir Lynden's absence at the banquet.

Mr McWeeney walked out of the banquet Friday night as Mr Ingraham addressed a wildly cheering crowd. Mr Ingraham said he intended to contest his seat in the next election, even though the PLP will not give him the nomination.

Mr McWeeney, who was seated at the head table, walked out. As he was leaving, Mr Ingraham reminded Mr McWeeney that he, too, was once PLP chairman and the Prime Minister's "blue eye boy."

Mr McWeeney walked out

earlier in the evening when Minister of Youth and Sports Livingston Coakley compared Mr Hanna favourably to other party members. He returned to the table after he walked out.

Mr Ingraham today labelled the chairman's walkout as "childish" and advised Mr McWeeney that he has to grow up if he intends to stay in politics.

Mr McWeeney said that Mr Ingraham's statement that he will be seeking re-election "was clearly an act of defiance" against the PLP, of which Mr Ingraham is "still" a member.

The PLP National General Council has voted not to renominate Mr Ingraham because in Parliament he condemned party members, who the Commission of Inquiry found were involved with drug traffickers.

"I wasn't really angry," Mr McWeeney said. "I just thought that it was a prostitution of the purpose of the occasion." He accused Mr Ingraham of making a "grand scale promotion effort" at the banquet.

Asked if he was taking side swipes about Mr Ingraham's political future, he said that he spoke "in good fun."

Mr McWeeney said he was "not in the slightest" bit perturbed with Mr Ingraham's "blue eye boy" reference, or the enthusiastic reception Mr

Ingraham received at the banquet from those attending.

"Hubert was well received, very well received," he admitted. He said that the Prime Minister is just as well received at functions. Mr McWeeney did not think the response was an indication that the Prime Minister has problems in the party, but that it may have had something to do with the make-up of the crowd.

Mr Ingraham chastised the chairman today for his behaviour at the banquet.

"I thought the chairman displayed childishness in walking out during the middle of my address, particularly when he had asked me to sit in on his entire speech."

Mr Ingraham said that Mr McWeeney took great liberty in referring to him during his address. He said he took the chairman's remarks in jest, and he likewise responded in jest.

"I was disappointed at his childish behaviour," Mr Ingraham said.

He said the chairman told him that the reason he left the room was because Mr Ingraham appeared to be challenging the authority of the NGC "and as chairman he thought it was the appropriate thing to do."

Mr Ingraham said Mr McWeeney told someone, "I don't see why I should listen to this..."

"He's got to put on a thicker skin if he's going to be in politics and grow up and mature quite fast," Mr Ingraham said.

"He has much ability and perhaps he ought to have his mentor give him some lessons on how to respond to political camaraderie."

Mr Ingraham did not know why the chairman accused him of engaging in acts of defiance and "in fact, he was mouthing what the Prime Minister said in the Council. Speaking truth cannot be an act of defiance, or can it?"

Mr Ingraham said that, during a brief chat after the banquet, Mr McWeeney implied that his reference about running with or without the blessing of the NGC could be a ground for expulsion from the party.

"I told him I knew the Constitution well, having assisted in drafting it in 1977. The man has got to grow up. He can't be a baby. He's got to be a man," Mr Ingraham said.

Meanwhile, Mr Isaacs said that the PLP is clearly divided.

"I think it became obvious that there was a split when Mr Hanna

resigned as deputy prime minister and as a leader of the government. He said he resigned as a matter of principle. It was pretty obvious he felt that other Ministers should have been fired and that the Prime Minister should have resigned," Mr Isaacs said.

"What happened Friday has confirmed the split."

Mr Isaacs said that Mr Hanna is not just an ordinary party member.

"It's his (Pindling's) deputy and a very good friend from boyhood, a very close political ally who has seen fit to almost denounce the Prime Minister. And the fact that so many people attended the banquet for Mr Hanna highlighted his absence," he said.

Mr Isaacs felt that Sir Lynden did not attend the banquet because "he wanted to send a message to his close supporters that Mr Hanna is out and he realized that people like Mr Ingraham would make remarks derogatory to his leadership. And his leadership can only take so much."

He said that Sir Lynden is "very much" on the run from a faction of his party.

Mr Isaacs felt that Sir Lynden still hopes to use the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference and visit by the Queen as an image booster. He said that when the event is over, Sir Lynden will probably assess his position and then decide whether or not he is strong enough to face an early election.

He pointed out that, although Sir Lynden accepted the resignation of two Cabinet Ministers who were found wanting by the Commission, he made "no bones" that he wanted them back one day.

"He's weathered so many storms he probably feels that if he waits long enough, this one will blow over. He is not going to call an early election if he thinks he will lose," Mr Isaacs said.

On the otherhand, if the Prime Minister waits too long, he might lose more support, Mr Isaacs said.

"Mr Ingraham seems to be gaining in stature."

### Plans for Queen's Visit

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 24 Sep 85 p 10

[Article by Colin Higgins]

[Text]

OPPOSITION Free National Movement leader Kendal Isaacs told supporters Friday night "it is up to us" to show Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling and "his corrupt Government" in their "true light" and let the Queen, Commonwealth heads and newspaper reporters "take that message not just to other parts of the Bahamas, but to every other part of the world."

Addressing an enthusiastic crowd of about 200 at the R M Bailey playing field, surrounded by cars whose horns tooted loudly, Mr Isaacs said he believes "Pindling is hoping that he gets such a boost from this visit that he would be able to call an election almost immediately and win that election."

The opposition leader said his party has been calling for an early

election ever since the Commission of Inquiry report came out.

"But that early election is going to backfire on Lynden Oscar Pindling and his corrupt Government," the speaker said to the cheers, applause and toots of car horns.

"The Free National Movement has never been in better shape than we are today and the PLP has not been in worse shape than they are today!"

More applause greeted these words. "That's right!" called out a listener.

"Let him call that election," said Mr Isaacs, "we are anxiously awaiting it."

"We are looking forward to it because we believe that the people of the Bahamas have at last opened their eyes and they are no

longer mesmerised and fooled by Sweet Mouth Willy."

Mr Isaacs told the rally he wanted to say a few words "about what is likely to happen" during the October visit of Commonwealth heads of government and Queen Elizabeth.

"At this time, we are not aware of the programme for the various functions, the various activities that the heads of government and the Queen will be taking part in. And therefore it is practically impossible for us to give you exact details of what we are going to do, when and where and how."

"We will be holding meetings between now and then and we will be giving you information so that by the time the conference is held and Her Majesty visits, you will know what we propose to do and what we are asking you to do."

"But let me say this," continued the opposition leader. "We need numbers!"

Every "able-bodied" FNM "and even every able-bodied fence sitter" is needed to turn out "when we ask you to turn out, in order to demonstrate not only to the people of the Bahamas but to demonstrate to Her Majesty the

Queen and all the heads of Commonwealth and to the press corp - and I emphasise the press corp - from all over the world, we want to demonstrate how we feel about Oscar Lynden Pindling and his corrupt PLP Government!"

Cheers, applause and car horn toots greeted Mr Isaacs comments.

### Threat of 'Bloodbath'

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 Sep 85 p 8

[Excerpt]

THE DANGER of "bloodshed" lies ahead for the Bahamas, a Sweeting's Cay, Grand Bahama resident told a Free National Movement rally Friday night at R M Bailey playing field.

"We are terribly disturbed and disgusted at the operation of the PLP," a fiery Ronald Bevans told an enthusiastic crowd.

"I don't know how you all feel here in New Providence, but in Grand Bahama we are more solid than Pindling's rock!"

He appealed to all FNMs "throughout the length and breadth of the Commonwealth"

to unite.

"We are facing a terrible situation in this country," he said, adding that FNMs and PLPs might not observe the danger that lies ahead.

"The danger that lies ahead, beginning with bloodshed," Mr Bevans, his voice ringing out through the night, told listeners.

"Whether you like it or not, that is on the agenda and it only wouldn't be FNMs," he cautioned. "Many bystanders, if we doesn't programme properly."

Said Mr Bevans, "I'm asking all of you to be strong and very courageous. We will not get weary and we will not get tired until liberty is won."

### Impact of TIMES Article

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 1 Oct 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

COPIES of the Sunday Times Magazine flooded the streets today, hitting Prime Minister Lynden Pindling with the outcome of the third major Press investigation against his government in two years.

Sir Lynden, who is in the Maldives islands attending a Commonwealth finance ministers conference, will arrive back in Nassau next Monday in time to play host to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen arrives here October 11 as the preliminary to the Commonwealth Conference,

which opens five days later.

In the meantime, ZNS TV and radio up until this morning continued to assure Bahamians that the Queen and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher were still coming to the Bahamas despite the Sunday Times expose. ZNS also continued to broadcast Sir Lynden's full response to the Times article, calling it an "attempt to give aid and comfort to apartheid." Sir Lynden has not explained the rationale behind this statement.

"It's a sure sign that they're paranoid, playing it over and over again," a political observer

commented today.

The Times special Insight article pulls Commission of Inquiry evidence together, leaving little doubt as to who it feels is responsible for the Bahamas' present dilemma. The Commission was appointed, among other things, to investigate parliamentarians who might have facilitated drug trafficking.

The Commission found that two Cabinet Ministers, a PLP MP and a PLP Senator were involved with drug traffickers. It also determined that Sir Lynden and Lady Pindling deposited \$3.5 million over a

8 November 1985

seven year period, excluding governmental salaries and allowances. Of this amount, Sir Lynden could not identify the source of payments of at least \$180,000. The Commission concluded that the Prime Minister and Lady Pindling had spent at least eight times as much as the Prime Minister's salary during the period under review, in other words over \$4 million expenditure on about \$500,000 earnings.

The Times article sets the stage for the Commonwealth Conference, the dignity of which Sir Lynden intends to use to restore his tarnished image, The Times says.

"I expect it will cause him quite a bit of embarrassment," Opposition leader Kendal Isaacs said today.

"He was hoping that the Conference would cure all his ills. (The Times article) has happened at a time when he hoped to take the first step towards repolishing his image."

The FNM quickly capitalized on the story, importing 5,000 copies of The Sunday Times Magazine and newspaper, which were on sale at headquarters and in front of the Nassau Shop today for \$4.

Mr Isaacs said that the FNM does not expect to make a profit on the magazines, and it plans to give away what it does not sell.

He also predicted that drug trafficking under Sir Lynden's administration will be brought up during the Commonwealth Conference. The matter would probably be raised during discussion on the Security of Small States, under which the drug problem falls.

"Drug trafficking is a very serious business. It ruins countries and it ruins individuals. It must be a concern to all heads of government," he said.

Sir Lynden's real political problems began on September 5, 1983, when NBC Nightly News alleged that he and other officials were accepting pay-offs in exchange for providing a safe haven for drug traffickers. Sir Lynden strongly denied the charges.

The Commission said that none of the known sources of funds made available to the Prime Minister appeared to be drug related.

Of the unidentified deposits, the Commission was unable to say one way or the other if the funds were drug related.

"As to the unidentified sources, the sources of which are still unknown, all that can be said is that there is no evidence before the Commission upon which we can form a conclusion as to whether or not these unidentified funds were drug related," it concluded.

One of the Commissioners, Anglican Bishop Drexel Gomez went a step further. He said that in his opinion:

"The circumstances raise great suspicion and I find it impossible to say that the payments were all non-drug related."

Sir Lynden called the NBC newscast "a criminally conceived conspiracy," whose aim, he felt, was to destabilize the government.

On September 23, 1984, The Miami Herald published a six-part series following its month-long investigation into corruption in the Bahamas. Sir Lynden figured prominently in the series. His American lawyer, F Lee Bailey, said that the Prime Minister was "extremely upset" about the information, which was either false or should have been made available to the Commission through the US Department of Justice.

## FNM Rally--Blasts at Pindling

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 1 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

FREE National Movement Chairman Cecil Wallace Whitfield told a rally at Christie Park last night that Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling has a brand of "Apartheid" in the Bahamas that beats the one practised by the racist South African Government.

The Pine Ridge, Grand Bahama MP told hundreds of supporters that Prime Minister Pindling, who hosts the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting here two weeks from now, is the "enemy" of the Bahamian

people and is the "greatest oppressor" that the country has ever seen.

Mr Whitfield was responding to a statement issued by Sir Lynden in England Sunday branding a Sunday Times Magazine Insight report on drug-related corruption in the Bahamas as giving aid and comfort to apartheid and the South African Government.

All of the speakers, which included Official Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs, Yamacraw MP Mrs Janet Bostwick and her husband, Senate Leader J Henry Bostwick, among others, touched on the reports in the Sunday Times of London and the Insight coverage in its Magazine section, which were sold at the rally.

"When The Miami Herald in 1966 and in 1965 was putting hell on the UBP and showing their corruption, what did Pindling say, look at that good newspaper over there in the United States," Mr Whitfield told the crowd.

"When The Sunday Times was putting hell on the UBP Pindling said look at that good newspaper over there in the United Kingdom," he said.

"Now when that same Miami Herald and the same London Sunday Times exposes his government, he said Great God almighty, they are making me out to be somebody who is fighting Apartheid," the FNM Chairman said.

"Pindling's got one brand of Apartheid in this country that beats that of the South African Government," he said.



"Because all of the black people in South Africa know what they are fighting. They see (President) P W Botha and all those white South Africans who believe in oppressing them standing in front of them."

"They know Botha is the enemy but the Sweet Music Man comes around and when he is finished talking to the Bahamian people, some of them gets fooled. They don't see that Pindling is the real enemy of our people and he is the person who is the greatest oppressor that this country has ever seen," Mr Whitfield said.

Mr Whitfield said that when a Prime Minister "moves with such ruthlessness" against people like Kendal "Funky" Demeritte and Breville "Bulla" Hanna, supporters of former Tourism Minister Perry Christie, dismissed from the Cabinet last October 8, preventing them from getting bread to feed their children, "then you know that L O Pindling is a cruel man."

He said that when Her Majesty The Queen arrives, the Prime Minister will be carried as the Leader of the Bahamian people, but he, along with thousands of his colleagues "will be out there saying: 'Not him Lady.'"

He said that the FNM will tell the Queen: "We welcome you to this country. We have no quarrel with you. We have no quarrel with you, Commonwealth Heads of government, but for Christ sake, denounce his corruption, don't sit down with L O Pindling who is as bad as this fellow, P W Botha."

"When you go to the United Nations, we would want you to tell Pindling that the Apartheid which he practises in the Bahamas is as stink and as rotten as the Apartheid which is practised in South Africa."

"The difference here is that it is a black man putting hell on black people," the FNM Chairman added.

Mr Whitfield said he would like to congratulate any member of the PLP, including former Minister of Housing and National Insurance Hubert Ingraham, dismissed from the Cabinet last October 8 along with Mr Christie, his law

partner, and others who have stood up in the nation for principles.

"It is not a question of Hubert is a PLP and not an FNM," Mr Whitfield said. "The struggle has become even higher than that. It is a question of principles. What kind of country do we wish to see our children grow up in. Do we wish to see them grow up in a country in which we have all yes men and bootlickers in the party or do we wish to see a parliament which is truly representative of all the noble principles which I know my Bahamian people stand for."

He said that "from here on in it is going to be tramp, tramp, the boys are marching, the girls are marching, because all of us are marching to a victory, not against The Queen, not against the Commonwealth Heads of Government."

"But all of us would be marching for the kind of life that we would like to see in our country and for ridding our country of corruption and so a new team of players," he said.

Mr Whitfield said that the Prime Minister is spending millions and millions of the dollars that Bahamians sweat for to put in the treasury to do a first class public relations job for "Lynden Pindling."

"Now when the Queen comes, there are going to be a whole lot of tourists and a whole lot of Bahamians who will be looking at him and what Pindling calculates is this: that he will have risen in his popularity as a result of the Queen's visit and the Commonwealth Heads of Governments having come to the Bahamas," he said.

"Then he goes off to the United Nations and he goes and makes this big anti-apartheid speech and then he says he is at the height of his popularity. Then on October 28 the maximum leader attends the convention of the Progressive Liberal Party and all brush fires will be put out and at the end of that convention again he will come out as the maximum leader of the PLP," said the FNM Chairman.

Mr Whitfield said that then will follow the trickiest move of

all.

"All right now you FNMs, you all say you want elections, fine. The election is called now. Called right before Christmas, right in 1985, catch everybody off guard. Then he says here, you all asked for an election, I give it to you because he thinks that is when he will be at the height of his popularity," Mr Whitfield said.

The FNM Chairman said that will only happen if the opposition makes it happen and it is not going to happen just because they wish it would happen.

"It is only going to happen if we make it happen. And by damn, you can count on me with every fibre in my body, with every piece of energy that I could muster, to get him out at all cost," he said.

"You see, I'm no Bishop so I don't have to say by all legal means. I a damn lawyer and he knows when I say by all means, I mean by all means and I mean by all means possible," he said.

He said that the Prime Minister told Official Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs and FNM Treasurer Orville Turnquest that he (Whitfield) wants to kill him (Pindling).

"He has been killing all my people all these years. He has heaped hell on the Bahamian people backs and necks when he is responsible for people's jobs, the dignity of my people and he can talk about him one getting killed? By Christ man, kill him, let him get out of the way," Mr Whitfield said.

"We don't have to kill him physically. He is killing every Bahamian, all of the Bahamian people, every son, every daughter. Every day you look and you see that he is killing the opportunity, he is killing the hope and he is holding power," he said.

"We don't need to kill him physically, but we need to kill that power. We need to kill that base of power which he has when he calls himself Prime Minister," Mr Whitfield said.

"But, you see, he tries to make you scared to use the word kill. I ain't scared to use the word kill. I don't want to kill him. I only want him dead politically," he added.



BAHAMAS

EX-SENATOR ON PERJURY CHARGES FROM DRUGS TESTIMONY

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

FORMER PLP Senator Andrew Edward "Dud" Maynard was charged in the Magistrates Court at 4:45 pm Tuesday with two counts of perjury, allegedly committed May 30 last year while he was giving evidence on oath before the Commission of Inquiry.

Electing summary trial, he pleaded not guilty to the offences and was released on \$10,000 personal bail to return for trial November 11 by Magistrate George Van Sertima. The matter, said the magistrate, would be treated as a preliminary inquiry and Maynard might at any stage, exercise his right to elect trial in the Supreme Court before a judge and jury.

It is alleged that on May 30, 1984 while giving evidence upon oath before the Commission of Inquiry, which was inquiring into the extent and methods employed in the illegal use of the Bahamas as a trans-shipment point for dangerous drugs destined for the United

States of America, Mr Maynard denied that he received the sum of \$50,000 from Luis Garcia, such a denial being known to him to be false and being intended to mislead the Commission.

The second charge alleges that at the same time he asserted that he did not accept any money from Luis Garcia, such assertion being known to him to be false and intended to mislead the Commission.

A warrant had been issued for Maynard's arrest Tuesday but he "voluntarily" turned himself in to police. Lawyer Allyson Maynard Gibson, his niece, appeared on the matter of bail for him.

Mr Maynard becomes the fourth person to be charged as a result of the Commission's findings. Previously charged were lawyers Godfrey Pinder and Langton Hilton and businessman and Prime Minister Pindling's close friend Everette Bannister. Mr Hilton was discharged recently.

CSO: 3298/049

BAHAMAS

INGRAHAM SEES DRUGS MONEY BEHIND ECONOMIC SUCCESS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

A HUGE, unmanageable liquidity resulting from drug funds has led to a reduction in bank interest rates, Hubert Ingraham, the MP for Cooper's Town, told the Kiwanis Club of Cable Beach last night.

Mr Ingraham, who received two standing ovations - one before and after his address - said that when officials brag about how well the economy is functioning, one should perhaps ask where the money is coming from and what is being done with it.

"Boastful claims have been made about the liquidity in our banking system as though it has come about because of some real economic boom. Nothing could be further from the truth," the former Minister of Housing and National Insurance said.

He said there is unquestionable evidence of the presence of what some call "unexplainable" and others "narco dollar" exchange coming into the banking system and, therefore, becoming a part of the economy.

"These are the terms used to explain the source of the otherwise unexplainable substantial increases in the Central Bank's external reserves, commercial banks liquidity and the new wealth as seen in the large homes and commercial ventures being established, as well as luxury cars, etc," Mr Ingraham told about 40 Kiwanians.

He cited statistics to support his statements.

Mr Ingraham said that the foreign exchange income generated from our "normal" and more "traditional" sources such as tourism cannot account for these substantial increases.

"There may now be, however, a need to effect a change in the definition of what we deem 'normal' as the 'unexplainable' has been with us for some time and does not appear to be leaving. Nowadays, some may regard drug monies and money laundering as 'normal,' he said.

He pointed out that the Central Bank Quarterly Review for the period ending March, 1985, in commenting upon the growth in money supply, reveals that the growth during the quarter was due solely in net foreign assets (non-Bahamian dollar income) as domestic credit declined.

Mr Ingraham, a lawyer, said that the "unexplained" surplus or "narco dollars" has had a fundamental impact on lending rates and Commercial Bank Credit.

"Largely because of the huge, unmanageable liquidity resulting from these drug funds, banks have reduced their interest rates as the Minister of Finance (Prime Minister Pindling) states, banks are now taking out advertisements in the newspapers soliciting borrowers," he said.

"Statistics show that there

has been no substantial increase in domestic credit or bank lending. The excess funds resulting from these narco dollars which have been deposited in commercial banks are for the most part sitting idle in the Central Bank."

Mr Ingraham said he has been advised that the increase in liquidity and reserves of the Central Bank is due almost solely and exclusively to the inflow from drug money.

There has been no substantial or significant inflow from traditional areas that can account for it, he added.

He recalled the comment the Governor of the Central Bank made before the Commission of Inquiry that the foreign exchange received from Bimini in respect of drug activity, accounted for the increase in external reserves that year.

"Does this create confidence in our economy as stated by our Minister of Finance?" he asked.

While banks have lowered their rates as a direct consequence of the excess liquidity and as a means of encouraging borrowing, many in the "trade" don't require bank facilities, Mr Ingraham said.

Homes, apartments, condominiums, commercial ventures, particularly the retail trade and consumption items are all being required for cash, he said. Construction and mortgage statistics fully support this claim.

"The Minister of Finance, in referring to increased activity in the construction field, did not relate the increased activity to increases in bank credit, as there were none," Mr Ingraham said.

He charged that banks have been satisfied to allow the excess liquidity to remain in the Central Bank as they have not found a means to "properly" employ them. He said the system has not been able to absorb or use up this surplus.

"Why are we bragging about surpluses if they are not being employed and thereby not improving our economic situation?" he asked.

Mr Ingraham said that the Central Bank needs to insist upon even more stringent requirements and banks need to screen the money coming into the system.

He said that banks have been hesitant to turn away depositors because of a perceived loss of competitive edge and their acceptance of these funds (narco dollars) are at a great "cost" to the country.

Mr Ingraham said that the screening of depositors would have a considerable impact upon liquidity and the economy generally.

And, he asked: "Have we become so dependent on this source of income that our system will collapse without it?"

"Is this what we look to to ensure that 1985 will have the brightest economic outlook of the decade as mentioned by the Minister of Finance?"

"Is it that we cannot afford to turn away these dollars and therefore have reconciled ourselves to accept the situation and live with it at whatever cost?"

"Having regard to all I have said, it appears that our excessive liquidity in Bank Credits is due less to good and prudent management but rather to our ineffectiveness in limiting the inflow and deposits resulting from drug trafficking and money-laundering," Mr Ingraham said.

"Most certainly, the Bahamas has not arrived at the point where the Government is prepared to say a healthy balance of payment position at any cost, including drug trafficking, is acceptable."

Mr Ingraham said that all Bahamians, particularly those with mortgages and business overdrafts, have benefitted from the reduction in interest rates and, theoretically, the reduction ought to have a beneficial economic impact as it may encourage more people to borrow for business creation and/or expansion.

"Ponder - if you will - the state of the economy if all drug trafficking proceeds were eliminated!" he said.

BAHAMAS

BROADCASTING CHIEF DISCUSSES ZNS' POLICY ON POLITICS, PARTIES

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Sep 85 p 4

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

WHILE ZNS should always cover the Opposition and the country should hear the other side of the argument fairly and accurately, the Broadcasting Corporation should not be manoeuvred out of line by vocal and militant interest groups, Chairman and Holy Cross MP Charles Carter said last week.

Addressing Bahamian Forum on "The Development of Broadcasting" last Wednesday evening, Mr Carter called for a change in the Broadcast Act to create a broadcast authority with the power to licence radio and television facilities.

He also urged the organization of an authority that regulates broadcasting in the interest of the public and the development of a strict code of ethics that protects and promotes the Bahamian culture and regulates commercialism.

In addition, Mr Carter called for regulation that deals with modern electronics like VTR's and satellites and provides secure funding for the Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas.

"Presently ZNS is on a course that has the triple objectives of assisting the developmental process, expansion to serve all the communities in the Bahamas and financial autonomy," the Broadcasting Chairman told Forum.

Mr Carter said that in 1977 when television programming began in the Bahamas, ZNS competed only with Florida, but

with the growing number of satellite dishes, ZNS is competing with the whole of North America for its audience.

"It is too early to measure the effect of satellites on our community but it has already changed our viewing habits," Mr Carter said. "The ubiquitous VTR machine has made each home in the Bahamas its own centre of entertainment. Satellites have turned every viewer into a programme director."

"The modern Bahamian ought then to be the most informed individual this country can produce. ZNS' hope for the future is to gain his attention by good local programming and a strong tradition for accurate, responsible reporting. Otherwise, there would be no one to inform, educate or entertain when ZNS is turned on," he added.

Mr Carter said it is interesting that the Progressive Liberal Party that railed greatly against the fact that the Opposition party had no access to Broadcasting in the '50s up to the late '60s, has itself been accused of the same practices.

"The fact is, though, the former government news never knew how to utilize the media intelligently," Mr Carter said. "When it was used to inform the country as to what was taking place, to my recollection, there was nothing produced that helped or hindered progress in the country."

Mr Carter said that in his opinion, neither the partisan control of Broadcasting nor the ability to perform well on radio and television guarantees electoral success or vice-versa.

"I am not saying that broadcasting does not shape attitudes and influence political socialization," he said. "It does, but there is little agreement on the influence that broadcasting has on the electorate. It is one of a number of factors in one's life that shapes thoughts, opinions and attitudes."

Mr Carter said that the Corporation's legally defined mission to educate, inform and entertain the Bahamas is a national commitment and as a resource of information, it plays a substantial role in the development of society.

"There is a number of people in this country who believe that ZNS is a puppet for the Government; it goes even further, by way of a recent publication, there is a number of PLP's who believes that ZNS acts only in the interest of certain select people in government," he said.

Mr Carter told Forum: "Those perceptions bother me as a former broadcaster and current Chairman of the Corporation."

He said that the role of broadcasting is simply to say accurately and truthfully what the Government is doing and not what they ought to be doing.

"While ZNS should reflect various shades of opinions, it must always be borne in mind that those responsible for national decision-making, and for the consequences of those decisions, have to be given every opportunity to be understood and evaluated," he said.

"Further, while ZNS should always cover the Opposition, and the country should hear the other side of the argument fairly and accurately, the Corporation should not be manoeuvred out of line by vocal and militant interest groups,"

he added.

Mr Carter said that the Broadcasting Act has been amended a number of times during the late '60s and early '70s, to upgrade the business potential of the Corporation and to reflect more liberal views concerning political broadcasts.

He said that the Act must reflect certain existing practices relating to political announcements and should establish provisions for private broadcast institutions.

"While I appreciate the free communication of thought and opinion is one of the most valuable rights we have in this and other democratic societies, new legislation must seek to protect broadcasting from the control of purely commercial or political interests," the Chairman said.

Incidentally, Mr Carter said that he believes ZNS will be getting a lot more attention when the House of Assembly reopens, and noted that no opposition and seldom most governments in the Westminster model are satisfied about radio and press coverage.

"That has always been the claim of Bahamian opposition parties and, perhaps, will always be one way of making news," he said. "The FNM has a select committee to look into privatising broadcasting which I do not agree with in principle."

"How super it would be to have a statutory commitment to political balance. That doesn't happen in the real world, however, and it probably won't happen in the next world," Mr Carter said.

"The facts are that the Government is the Government and almost daily, and by definition will make news," he said.

"Since information is a political resource, and radio and television constitute the primary source of political information, it follows that the organization and control of broadcasting are subjects that feature prominently on the political agenda," Mr Carter declared.



BAHAMAS

WORKERS PARTY REFUTES PLP CHARGE, CITES OPINION POLLS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 18 Sep 85 pp 8, 12

[Article by Lyn Sweeting]

[Text]

THE Workers Party denied a statement made by Fred Mitchell, former National General Council member of the Progressive Liberal Party, who told a Bahamian Forum audience recently that no formal surveys have been done on political attitudes to determine what kind of support exists for the various political parties.

Mr Mitchell said that the ruling PLP "would be well advised to institute a formal survey of the attitudes and opinions, less they become victims of silence."

"This week marks one year since the Workers Party began a new strategy of polling public opinion on Bay Street," said a statement signed by the Central Committee of the Workers Party on September 10. "We have asked hundreds of people on three occasions since last September if they thought Pindling and the PLP should resign. Anyone who has a good understanding of mathematics and science knows that this form of survey is as accurate as any other type."

"It is ridiculous to suggest that the PLP hold a public poll like the one we had," said Workers Party Leader Philip Miller, who delivered the statement to The Tribune last week. "We held that poll because we were not in a position to call a general election."

The National Polling Commission was established as an independent entity, by members

of the Workers Party on September 5, 1984. The NPC polled 525 persons, asking them to vote for or against the resignation of Sir Lynden Pindling. Eighty-four per cent of those polled were in favour of his resignation.

Later that month, 1,481 persons signed a petition circulated by the NPC, urging Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash to dissolve parliament and call a general election.

The second public opinion poll was taken in April, 1985. Of the 525 persons polled, 77 per cent felt Sir Lynden should resign.

"The overwhelming majority of Bahamians see the PLP as garbage to be thrown away," the Workers' Party said.

The results of both polls, and a copy of the petition, were then presented to Sir Gerald. The NPC claim they have had no response from Sir Gerald.

The Workers Party Central Committee feels that Mitchell "and the rest of the PLP regime" are trying to ignore the results of the NPC polls and petitions.

"Look how long the government of South Africa ignored the African National Congress? More than 22 years," said Mr Miller. "They acted as if they didn't exist. Their very denial, their very ignoring, made it grow, and now the African National Congress is one of the country's major political forces. In this same way the Workers'

Party is growing, because of their attempts to deny its existence.

"The conflict in South Africa clearly teaches the value of persistence," the statement said. "Things are coming to a boil in South Africa because for the first time heat is being applied persistently by the Black majority." The statement further said that "Bahamians ought to be organised into persistent, peaceful marches through the streets of Nassau; the cumulative effect of which would force the Pindling regime to resign."

The Workers Party took issue with the Free National Movement, which they claim never replied to a petition "signed by many Bahamians asking for the kind of leadership that is needed and desired by the Bahamian majority."

"Disinvestment in South Africa seems to be more important to FNM leaders than does divesting the Pindling regime of political power."

"As a result, the lot falls on the Workers Party to be the cutting edge in the fight against the corrupt PLP," the statement said. "We are fully prepared for this responsibility, and we will begin with a long march on the PLP on September 21. We call on all enlightened Bahamians to support this march, which will be the beginning of the end."

The statement was signed by Workers' Party leader Philip Miller, Chairman Rodney Moncur, Treasurer Henry Dummett, Vice Chairman of the Polling Commission, Van Deveaux, and Deputy Treasurer Gloria Stevens.

BAHAMAS

VANGUARD LEADER RESIGNS, CAREY TEMPORARY CHIEF

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 1 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

DR JOHN McCartney has resigned as chairman of the Vanguard Nationalist and Socialist Party and is currently in the United States teaching and working on a book.

In a brief letter bearing the salutation "Dear Central Committee" the former Purdue University Political Science professor said, "This is to inform you that I have resigned my post as Chairman of the Vanguard Nationalist and Socialist Party effective immediately.

"The reasons for my resignation are based on personal feelings which were very carefully considered."

The letter is signed "Sincerely yours," John McCartney over the typed name "Dr John T McCartney.

A release which Dr McCartney requested be circulated

is headed "To Whom It May Concern:

"From Dr John T McCartney."

It states: "This is to inform you that I have resigned my post as Chairman of the Vanguard Nationalist and Socialist Party. The reasons for my resignation are based on personal feelings which were very carefully considered.

"Presently I am in the USA working on a book and teaching. On my return to the Bahamas, I will continue the struggle BUT in another arena." (Emphasis is Dr McCartney's).

Contacted before the release was received this afternoon, Dr McCartney's mother said he was in the United States where he has accepted a "professorship."

Also contacted before the

release was received by The Tribune, Vanguard Vice-Chairman Lionel Carey said Dr McCartney told party colleagues he was going to the US to seek employment.

Mr Carey said "We regret it" but it will not affect the party.

The vice-chairman said Dr McCartney was at one time away teaching while still chairman of the party. Mr Carey said the party then and now has a "collective leadership" and is run in a "democratic" manner.

The party is not dependent on one person and if any leader were to leave, the party would still continue, said the vice-chairman.

He indicated that when the party holds its next congress, possibly next year, it will address the question of its chairmanship.

[Editor's Note: The Nassau Domestic Service in English a5 1200 GMT on 4 October 1985 carries a recorded interview with Carey in which he says in part: "Very soon the party will see a new chairman. At the moment, I am taking responsibility of leading until the party meets sometime soon, perhaps within the month, when we will pick a new leader or will pick a new [words indistinct]. But at the moment, I will be sharing that responsibility."]

CSO: 3298/050

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

MORE REFINERY LAYOFFS--Freeport--Bahamas Oil Refining Company has announced that 22 more of its employees will be laid off on Monday as the company continues to scale down its Freeport operations. "In August," said Mr R J Hudachek in a general notice to BORCO staff on Thursday, "Borco announced a decision by the partners to discontinue processing of crude oil at the refinery. It was also disclosed that this change in operation would result in a reduction of manpower to a level required for future terminaling activities, as determined by the partners. "BORCO has subsequently submitted to the partners a study of possible operating modes for the facilities, with manpower needs for each mode," said the notice. "The study is still under review. It is anticipated that further reductions in manpower will occur. Employees will be kept advised, as soon as possible, of any decisions to declare additional redundancies." Since the beginning of the year about 112 BORCO staff members have been made redundant, the majority of them Bahamians. [Excerpts]  
[Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 28 Sep 85 p 1]

NEW CANADIAN ENVOY--Mr Robert G Woolham has been appointed as the new Canadian High Commissioner to the Bahamas. Mr Woolham replaces Mr David C Reece who served as High Commissioner to the Bahamas for three years. Mr Reece is returning to Ottawa. Mr Woolham was born in Toronto, Ontario and has a B.S.A. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Toronto. He joined the former Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce in 1956. He has previously served as Trade Commissioner in Jamaica from 1967 to 1970 and also in New York, Chicago, Tokyo, Paris and Hong Kong. From 1970 to 1974, he served as Assistant Director, Personnel, Trade Commissioner Service; 1974 to 1979 as Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner in Cleveland; 1979 to 1982 as Director, Finance and Administration, Trade Commissioner Service. With the Department's re-organisation in 1982, he became Director, Personnel Administration Division, in the Department of External Affairs. Since 1983, he has been Director General, Personnel Administration Bureau. Mr Woolham resides in Kingston, Jamaica.  
[Text] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 19 Sep 85 p 8]

CSO: 3298/050

BOLIVIA

PEASANT AFFAIRS MINISTER TO UPDATE MINISTRY

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 14 Aug 85 p 4

[Text] While stating that the Ministry of Peasant Affairs will use foreign technical and economic cooperation to speed up agricultural production, the Peasant Affairs minister announced that stabilization of agricultural products prices would begin within about 60 days, when the peasant markets open and start operating.

Mauricio Mamani Pocoata, deploring that the previous government introduced "dollarization" in agriculture, said that this resulted in outrageously higher prices for traditional regionally-consumed products.

He reported that in order to correct that, the present government has begun to consider practical solutions to the problem, and said he felt that the economic and technical assistance offered by international organizations and friendly nations will aid in the recovery of agricultural production.

Mamani Pocoata revealed that the peasant markets and the affiliate storage centers are ready to carry out their intended functions, and are awaiting the set of rules soon to be issued by the government to neutralize the steady increase in speculation and the fluctuation of prices, thus leading to price stability and rebuilding of production.

Present Situation of MACA

According to Mamani, the Ministry of Peasant and Agricultural Affairs, which has great importance in national administration, was not properly run in the past, which has led to its current serious financial problems.

"The MACA is unfortunately the poorest of the ministries. In spite of the fact that it has 10 decentralized departments, there was no move to bring that Ministry to life, and to set real incentives for agricultural production and guarantee consumption for the people," said the minister.

"In addition," stated Mamani, "if we do not soon have more technicians to make this ministry work, neither production nor productivity can be maintained, so let us have enough technicians and technology."



He announced that it was discovered recently that many items intended for qualified technicians had been distributed among "youngsters" without any specialty, which meant that that ministry's problems would remain unresolved.

While insisting that they are reassigning the items which should be handled by technicians, Mamani Pocoata announced that training is being arranged for specialized jobs to strengthen the creative and productive framework of the MACA.

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CSO: 3348/920

BOLIVIA

POTOSI OFFICIALS CONCERNED OVER RISING EMIGRATION

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 15 Aug 85 p 7

[Text] The emigration of families from Potosi to other districts is worrying local authorities and institutions. They are helpless to stem this demographic phenomenon, which has a noticeable effect on the socioeconomic development of the region.

According to surveys, the lack of jobs, the isolation of this city without an airport or air service, and also the altitude and the cold, work against the permanent settlement of its inhabitants, who feel obliged to move to other parts of the country.

Sucre, Tarija, Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, and La Paz are the cities receiving most of the Potosi emigres, whose number is over 100,000.

In recent years, one can again hear the saying "the people of Potosi think about leaving their country before they are even born." The ironic statement worries the organizations that plan the development of the Potosi department, which has 118,218 square kilometers and about 800,000 inhabitants.

It is also notable that the majority of parliamentary representatives for Potosi are citizens who live in the capital and are not close to the problems of their city. Moreover, it is pointed out that the people who occupy high rank jobs here go to other capitals after their jobs are finished.

Jobs

In the regional development corporation and the Potosi civic committee stress has been placed recently on the need to create new jobs and plan a program to prevent emigration.

One of the plans is to hasten completion of the paved road from Potosi to the Tarapaya spa area, where the climate is pleasant and a residential urban development could be built.

8587  
CSO: 3348/920

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

OPPOSITION LEADER SCORES UNITED PARTY ADMINISTRATION

Road Town THE ISLAND SUN in English 21 Sep 85 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vernon Pickering: "Lack of Leadership Is The Cause Of Our Standstill"]

[Text]

The Leader of the Opposition, Hon. H. Lavity Stoutt called a press-conference last Monday, Sept. 16, to discuss the state of our economy and the problems facing all of us: "I am convinced that the time has now passed when yours truly is prepared to take it easy and sit back. I feel that so many people are indeed concerned as to what is happening in the BVI" Hon. Stoutt said.

The President of the Virgin Islands Party also stressed that "It is somewhat distressing to note that all the 'Big jobs' which the Virgin Islands Party's government left in operation have now come to an end"- without hesitation Hon. Stoutt asked "When is the next project coming on the scene?"

Hon. Stoutt himself supplied the answer: "There is no sign of any projects on the horizon, unless such projects have not yet been announced by the government. School leavers are finding it difficult to get jobs, some expatriate workers have been held up, some of those persons who have been working for two or three years or more have had to give way to BVI Islanders in order that

they might have something to do. This is a clear indication that there is a job shortage. Some businesses have had to close because of failure to issue work permits; fees for work permits have been increased, which is causing great concern to holders of such work permits. I believe that it is time that the United Party government should realize that they have failed the people of this country."

Asked about the cause of this depressing scenario Hon. Stoutt said: "The government has got to put its house in order and then the development will flow; the government is the one that sets the stage, and if the stage is not set, then the stage might fall down."

Questioned about the major problems of the BVI, Hon. Stoutt briefly commented: "A good source and sense of direction and leadership."- About the Delta controversy, the Leader of the Opposition said: "I am in no way to really discuss that matter intelligently because I don't know enough about it. I noted some comments made by the Minister of Natural Resources during the

course of his broadcast and I was somewhat mistified by some of the things that he spoke about, that these people just came in to have their pound of flesh and they have no interest in the people of this country and that he thought that if there is going to be a law-suit that the people of this country were going to pay, he did not tell us how much."

Hon. Stoutt discussed a few other topics in the course of the press-conference and when agriculture surfaced he said: "Agriculture as it stands today is never going to be what it was thirty or forty years ago." However, the Leader of the Opposition is of the view that home gardening should be encouraged since it may help families to produce enough for their needs and may help our economy with less massive imports of vegetables etc. "The Virgin Islands Party has a programme to carry out the agriculture to the best of their ability for the development and for the benefit of the people of the BVI"- Hon. Stoutt concluded.

/12851

CSO: 3298/071

DOMINICA

PAPER WARNS OF COMMUNIST PRESENCE IN PARLIAMENT

Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 13 Sep 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Totally Alien"]

[Excerpts] Is Forbes Burnham alive, dead, or just taking a nap? That's what citizens of Guyana will soon ask themselves when they go by the place of the Seven Ponds where the late President's body will be permanently exhibited.

Persons here who delight in bragging about their long personal association with Burnham, namely Mike and Rosie Douglas must have something to say about this strange struggle to deify their comrade.

The Rosie Douglas of this world gullibly idolize the Burnhams and the Yasser Arafats not knowing what evils they are breeding in their psyche.

We're not referring to Rosie Douglas, the unemployed radical but Rosie Douglas, Parliamentary Representative for the Paix Bouche constituency.

Did some Dominicans elect Communists to represent them. Yes they did!

Only LIAT and God knows how many trips to Russia, Cuba and other communist countries the Labourites have travelled to. They sometimes say the New Chronicle is biased in reporting only on the other side but really, there's nothing else to report. The only news is the news of their travels to communist countries.

Oh yes the communists are in the House of Assembly alright. But its not just communism. It's a whole little army of strange ideas totally alien to our society. Be on the alert.

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CSO: 3298/072



DOMINICA

BRIEFS

DFP BRANCH OFFICERS--The Colihaut branch of the Dominica Freedom Party has elected a new executive. The new members are: Chairman Nevison Parillon, Vice Chairman Veronica Pascal, Secretary Geraldine Parillon, Treasurer Evette Sebastien and Assistant Secretary and Treasurer Sindy Zamore. Martina Sylvester, Harrison Edwards and Simpson Roberts were elected Committee members. M.P. Colihaut, Mr. Clem Shillingford told the new members that while some individuals in the community were asking what the country was doing for them they (the members), should be proud of the achievements of the Dominica Freedom Party. Mr. Shillingford pointed out that members should be grateful to the society that nurtured them and should strive to make it the kind of society that they want it to be. [Text] [Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 6 Sep 85 p 2]

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION--Preparation for the commencement of work in the construction of 22.5 miles of 11KV transmission line is now underway in the area of the Fresh Water Lake. Construction of the 11KV transmission line is part of the \$5 million USAID funded, government conceived, rural electrification project. The engineering firm of Sadelmi New York Incorporated has been awarded the \$2,194,346 U.S. contract to construct the 11KV transmission line which will run from Trafalgar to Rosalie south to Delices and then from Rosalie to Castle Bruce. Actual construction work is expected to begin in October and end in June of next year. The rural electrification project is designed to provide residents on the entire east coast of the island with a dependable supply of electricity for the first time. [Excerpts] [Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 6 Sep 85 p 1]

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CSO: 3298/072

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

ARMED FORCES OFFICIALS RESHUFFLED--President Salvador Jorge Blanco appointed yesterday Rear Admiral Manuel Ramon Montes Arache administrator of the Las Americas International Airport. The president also reshuffled other Armed Forces officials. Some of the officials were promoted in rank, others received assignments in the military or public administration and they were sworn in yesterday by Jorge Blanco himself. According to Decree 3362, Rear Admiral Victor Manuel Barjan Muffdy was appointed subsecretary of the Navy with the rank of Vice Admiral. Rear Admiral Manuel Ramon Montes Arache and pilot Brigade General Jorge Humberto Percival Pena were respectively appointed administrator of the Las Americas International Airport and chief of the Central Air Command of the Dominican Air Force. Navy Captain Socrates Beras Toribio was promoted to Rear Admiral and appointed sub-chief of the Navy and Colonel Dario Gonzalez Delgado was named delegate of the General Staff of Operations of the Dominican Air Force. Through Decree 3363, Colonel Erasmo Acosta Batista was appointed sub-chief of the president's military assistants corps. [Excerpt] [Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 5 Oct 85 p 4]

CSO: 3248/37

CHILE

SUPREME COURT HEAD REPRIMANDED

PY240157 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The plenum of the Supreme Court of Justice has termed unacceptable the reason which its President Rafael Retamal gave for not attending a luncheon offered by President Pinochet. In a public declaration signed by the 15 members of the Supreme Court of Justice, the magistrates rejected the excuses given by Retamal. Their official statement states the following:  
[passage omitted]

The right to accept the presidential invitation is not discussed, since that is a matter pertaining only to the Supreme Court president and which is not of interest to the plenum. However, the statements that the Supreme Court president has made to explain why he did not attend the luncheon offered by the president have appeared in several Santiago newspapers and especially in the newspaper LAS ULTIMAS NOTICIAS on 19 October.

Page 12 of that newspaper textually says, "President of the Supreme Court of Justice Rafael Retamal Lopez has explained the reasons for not attending to a luncheon offered by the president of the republic to the members of the Supreme Court of Justice and which all its members attended. Retamal stated that he could not maintain cordial relations with some of the parties involved in a lawsuit, obviously referring to cases that are currently being heard by common and military courts and on which the members of the Supreme Court of Justice will have to pass judgement," [passage omitted]

Attending the luncheon would not have represented maintaining, "cordial relations with one of the parties involved in a lawsuit" as stated by the president of the Supreme Court of Justice. His excuses are unacceptable.

12913  
CSO: 3348/107

CHILE

# BOMB THREAT INTERRUPTS SOCIALIST YOUTH MEET

PY242145 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The Briones faction of the Socialist Youth Federation [Federacion Juvenil Socialista, sector Briones] gave a press conference this morning that ended abruptly and unexpectedly. As Gabriel de la Fuente, secretary general of the Socialist Youth Federation, was reporting the results of his party's third plenum, an anonymous telephone call warned that a bomb had been placed in the hotel where the press conference was being held.

The following is a report by Gabriel de la Fuente on the conclusions of his party's third plenum.

[Begin de la Fuente recording] Our political committee has decided that the Socialist Party should not join the Democratic Alliance, because we believe any dialogue to be established with our political committee should first come through the Socialist Bloc. Nevertheless, we believe dialogue is important in trying to work out an alliance, project, or solution to the dictatorship.

We also believe the Socialist Bloc should be given more importance because it is the natural common representative of historic socialism and renewed Socialist tendencies. [end recording]

De la Fuente pointed out that the Socialist Youth supports the National Accord for the Transition Full Democracy and that social mobilization is a valid strategy to attain the objectives of the National Accord.

He also expressed the Socialist Party's intention to create a single national opposition to General Pinochet's regime. He said that the National Accord will be achieved by all Chileans through social mobilizations.

In turn, Francisco Zuniga, a Socialist Youth member, said that they had agreed to try to form a single socialist party with the participation of the historical, Christian, and renewed tendencies of socialism.

At that moment, Socialist Youth member Lucy Dias announced the end of the press conference because of an anonymous telephone call saying that a bomb had been placed in the Libertador Hotel. [passage omitted]

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CSO: 3348/107

CHILE

CHILEAN CP LEADER COMMENTS ON STRUGGLE AGAINST PINOCHET

AU231826

[Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German on 22 October on pages 5 and 6 carries an 8,000 word article by Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Chile, entitled: "The Events in Chile: The Unity Against the Dictatorship; Ways and Methods of Struggle" reviewing the present political situation in the country and the positions of the various political forces opposed to the Pinochet regime, as well as the methods of struggle proposed by them and their political aims.

Corvalan refers to Salvador Allende's statement in which he distinguished between enemies and opponents and notes that the Chilean Communist Party, together with many of these opponents, defends the interests of the working people and comes out for the earliest possible return to democracy. Corvalan quotes from the document signed by 11 parties which is entitled: "Agreement on the Transition to Full Democracy," a document which is also endorsed by Cardinal Fresno and from the reply to it sent by the Communist Party Central Committee to the chairman of the Christian Democratic Party, Valdes.

Subsequently, Corvalan analyzes the communist party's position on violence and on its use in the revolutionary struggle, particularly in the struggle against the Pinochet regime, as well as the attitude to the violence of other political forces in Chile. In this context Corvalan regards it as "elusive that a democratic opening can be agreed upon with Pinochet. But we do not regard it as impossible to do so with the armed forces, without the dictator of course," he adds. Then Corvalan stresses that U.S. imperialism will continue to cooperate with Pinochet as long as this is possible and, quoting a passage from a speech given by Lenin on 18 March 1918 on the death of Sverdlov, emphasizes the importance of the organization of the working people's masses as an essential characteristic of the revolution of the working people's masses as an essential characteristic of the revolution and as a prerequisite of its victory.

Corvalan then reviews the significance of the recent days of protest held all over Chile and the positions adopted in this context by the various political parties, movements and other components.



In the conclusion of his article, Corvalan notes that the effort of certain rightist forces to exclude the communist party and its closest allies from the struggle against the Pinochet regime are against the will and interests of the people and that they are basically failing, that is in the towns and villages, the trade unions, among the [word indistinct] and particularly among the youth where a broad unity is developing. "It will depend on the people and particularly on the workers class whether the events will steer the right course or not. If this road leads to a developed democracy, the communist party will adhere to its policy of the broadest possible alliance of all social forces, an alliance from which no progressive force is excluded, because the transformations that are necessary in Chile require the cooperation and joint struggle of the majority of the citizens."

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CSO: 3348/107

COLOMBIA

LIBERALS CLARIFY STAND ON PEACE PROCESS, ELECTION OF MAYORS

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 25 Sep 85 p 12

[Text] The Liberal Party last night established its position on the pacification process, the debate on electoral guarantees, and the bill on the popular election of mayors that is now going through Congress.

The party's national director and presidential candidate, Dr Virgilio Barco, issued a statement on these matters to "clarify errors" and to orient Liberals' thinking on the political issues of the day.

The text of his statement is as follows:

"Statement by the Liberal Party National Board:

"In view of the political events that have taken place in the past few days with regard to the pacification process and the announcement of the Senate debate on public order and electoral guarantees, the national director of the Liberal Party, having consulted the associate directors, deems this a timely opportunity to explain the party's position in order to clarify errors and orient the views of party members, given that this is a political time of vital importance in ensuring the normal development of the elections to be held next year.

Parliamentary Debate on Electoral Guarantees

"Amid the vicissitudes of the pacification process the country has undergone over the last 3 years, there is no doubt of the Liberals' commitment to the goal of peace. Nevertheless, the government has seen fit to keep this party's leaders out of the decision-making process, despite the party's well-founded criticism of various aspects of the procedures employed and the fact that the president of the republic has not assumed full responsibility for the management of the process.

"The Liberal Party has joined in the passage of the key bills aimed at recovering civic normalcy, including the amnesty and the pardon, the measures designed to shore up a weakened treasury, the initiatives taken to modernize the Colombian political system, and the measures aimed at institutionalizing the parties and establishing the popular election of mayors. This position of

principle should be sufficient to squelch the rumors and suspicions that some special interests have prompted with regard to the meeting a group of well-intentioned Colombians, headed by former President Lopez Michelsen, held with leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). This has taken place at a time when it is imperative that we shed light on the future of the pacification process, within the country's current political context.

"A fundamental aspect of this situation is the guarantees the government is constitutionally obligated to provide to safeguard the 1986 elections, which will determine whether the official peace policy yields partial or total success. It is no surprise, therefore, that the Congress of the Republic has become the forum for the representatives of the people to express their concern about a matter of public order that could jeopardize the electoral process, to inform public opinion of threatening circumstances for which a solution must be found, and to set forth their demands that steps be taken to facilitate the government's efforts to calm the justified fears that plague large portions of the population.

"Thus conceived, the debate among our congressmen, marked by their serious and patriotic attitude, will not constitute any change of position by the party with respect to the peace we all yearn for. Nor will it be an emotional attack on a cause to which all national energies should be devoted. Rather, it will be a new contribution by the Liberal Party to the necessary clarification of the myriad factors that complicate the current political situation.

#### Popular Election of Mayors

"Among the measures that Congress has debated in the endeavor to broaden the citizens' participation in the political system, a cause which many Liberal sectors have been defending for several decades with valid ideological arguments, is the constitutional reform for the popular election of mayors. Now that the Conservative Party has been an enthusiastic supporter of the idea for some time, no insurmountable obstacle should impede the passage of a reform bill. In addition to its own merits, the measure is backed by the armed groups that must be incorporated into civilian life, and has been defended by the government as a key aspect of the political liberalization that must accompany the pacification process. The report in favor of the bill, a report which was presented in the House of Representatives for the initial debate in the second round of constitutional procedures, constitutes a reaffirmation of the Liberals' support for the reform. The author of the report, however, exercising his undeniable right to propose modifications to enrich the discussion, made recommendations that may be controversial. Some of these recommendations were proposed at the Liberals' 2nd Ideological Conference, and refer to instrumental matters about which many members of the different parties have serious reservations.

"Any report is a proposal to be studied and debated. The attempt to interpret this one as an ultimatum or a plot to torpedo the bill is an emotional reaction, and is in every respect unjustified. The refusal to discuss formulas for reaching an acceptable agreement is unheard of in parliamentary proceedings. The alternatives pointed out in this report, such as setting the

same date for the mayoral and presidential elections, draws on a formula that the Liberal Party regards as appropriate, given the similar characteristics of the two offices in presiding over the executive branch of municipal or national government. But this is just one proposal that is designed to expedite the reform. There are others that could serve the same purpose, such as the postponement of the effective date of the new constitutional text until 1988, as some political sectors have suggested."

8926

CSO: 3348/14

8 November 1985

## COLOMBIA

## UP GUARANTEED FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN TERRITORIES

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Sep 85 p 5-A

[Article by Jorge Manrique]

[Text] Villavicencio, 20 September--The section chiefs of the intendancies and police forces today issued a guarantee of the Patriotic Union's right to carry out political activities in the national territories.

In the course of a meeting convened by the governor of Meta, retired Gen Henry Garcia Bohorquez, the spokesmen for the political arm of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) reaffirmed their willingness to comply with the agreements reached in La Uribe for 9 months longer than called for in the pact with the government.

The meeting took place in the facilities of the Assembly of that department, and was attended by the police chiefs of Guaviare (Hernan Benjumea), Vichada (Carlos E. Caro), and Guainia (Graciela Ortiz). Also present were the secretary general of the Arauca Intendancy, Pablo Cure Ruiz; the intendant of Casanare, Antonio Jose Gomez; the regional prosecutor, Jairo Uribe; the chief justice of the Court of Guarantees, Alvaro Penuela; 10 delegates from the FARC's five fronts that operate in the national territories; and representatives of the trade associations of Meta and the political parties.

After discussing the status of the peace process in this region of the country, the spokesman for the FARC general staff, Urias Oyaga, requested that the authorities provide better guarantees for the normal conduct of political activities by the Patriotic Union.

In turn, the representatives of the trade associations, the political parties and the government agencies agreed to respect the new political organization's right to carry out freely its prosyletizing activities in preparation for the elections next year.

The spokesmen for the FARC fronts indicated that the political ambience is full of rancor, and noted that the military has been guilty of several instances of provocation in the intendancies and police jurisdictions.



## Support for Reform

The FARC explained that by the time the truce with the government expires next 1 December, the reforms agreed to in the La Uribe pact will not have been implemented, except for the bill for the popular election of mayors. They pointed out, however, that the bill has encountered some obstacles.

They contended that the Peace and Verification Commissions should be combined, with the direct participation in those organizations by the Defense Ministry, the Communications Ministry, the Government Ministry and the many sectors represented in the House and Senate.

They also denounced the harassment of peasants by the military in Arauca, Guaviare, Casanare and Meta, primarily.

The Patriotic Union called upon the government and the public corporations to undertake reforms in connection with the development of the petroleum reserves on the plains, and to implement a far-reaching agrarian reform program to provide assistance to the residents of the La Macarena Mountains.

The political organization demanded sincerity in the formation of an electoral body in which all political sectors would be represented equally. It also stressed the democratization of municipal life through the revamping of rates charged for public services and transportation, among others.

8926

CSO: 3348/14

COLOMBIA

MINISTRY ANNOUNCES RESTRUCTURING OF IMPORT, EXPORT TARIFFS

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Sep 85 p 3-A

[Article by Dario Fernando Patino]

[Text] Cartagena, 20 September--The government announced yesterday that it plans to revise the entire structure of the taxes that are paid on imports and exports, so that they can be reduced substantially.

In a new step toward the gradual deregulation of purchases abroad, Development Minister Gustavo Castro Guerrero revealed that in the next few days a decree will be issued to modify the Colombian tariff system.

The minister announced the news to about 600 industrialists who were gathered for the closing ceremonies of the 41st Congress of the National Association of Industrialists (ANDI).

The high official defended the government's economic programs, as could be expected, but he accepted the industrialists' proposal to promote a comprehensive restructuring of the Colombian administrative model.

Still, he expressed his disagreement with those who have criticized the government's adjustment policy, asserting that they have not proposed any viable fiscal and external alternatives but have simply made observations without suggesting solutions.

Castro Guerrero also disagreed with what has been called excessive state interventionism, a phenomenon that both the industrialists and the presidential candidates denounced yesterday.

"What do you mean by interventionism? Could it be all the financial support the current government has lent the business sector? Or are the soft credits totaling more than 10 billion pesos from the Business Capitalization Fund and the 12 billion pesos for the textile and iron and steel industries excessive? How about the transfer of resources implicit in the Monetary Board's Resolution 33/84? And finally, does the support for the financial and productive sectors entailed in the recently issued series of Monetary Board resolutions, beginning with No. 52, constitute excessive interventionism?" asked the minister.

"There is no doubt," he stated emphatically, "that the current government of President Betancur has provided ample backing to free enterprise."

#### Encouraging Indicators

The minister did not waste this opportunity to praise the results of the government's foreign policy. He recalled that as of 30 June, total exports had grown by 8.3 percent. Of that amount, minor categories rose by 16.8 percent, meaning that they attained the highest growth rate of the last 4 years.

According to the statistics cited by the official, the industrial sector has grown by 20.4 percent, while imports have declined 5.6 percent.

"In short, the adjustment and business recovery policies adopted by the government have had a major positive impact, as revealed by the comparisons between this year's figures and those of 1984," he stated.

#### Industrialists' Fear

The development minister opined that Colombian industry today is not providing the dynamic impetus that the country expected when the industrialization process began.

"I do not think I am exaggerating," he noted, "when I say that there is still an almost innate tendency to remain under the umbrella of the national market, and a bias about seeking new opportunities in possibilities for replacing imports."

He asserted in this regard that this is why the government cannot make unjustified investments or indulge in excessive paternalism, much less become a mere bystander.

He stated that in addition to facilitating the construction of the infrastructure necessary for production, the government must orient the economy toward its stated growth objectives.

#### Business Employees

The minister proposed that the industrialists examine the experience of other countries such as the United States and Europe (sic), where different forms of employee participation in the ownership and management of businesses have been explored in recent years.

He indicated that the results of these experiments merit very special attention from us, because they show us how during periods of crisis and change, a concerted effort by labor and management can provide the solutions to ward off bankruptcy, facilitate the introduction of new technology, cut production costs, and improve product quality.

He suggested that businesses keep their employees informed constantly of their financial situation, and discuss with them their marketing problems, alternatives for cutting costs, and mechanisms for improving product quality.

"I am convinced," he declared, "that there is still a lot that can be done to improve the productivity of businesses with worker participation in that endeavor; the country cannot afford to pass up these opportunities."

The executive from the coast stressed the importance of the modifications that will be made in the policy on assembly in Colombia, which is no longer yielding the same results as in the initial years.

He recalled that in 1984, the net exchange balance in the automotive industry amounted to a deficit of US \$150 million. As for the domestic market, the final price paid by the consumer is an indicator of the "efficiency" of the automotive industry. According to Castro Guerrero, an examination of the relevant international markets reveals that the Colombian consumer is paying a surcharge of approximately 100 to 200 percent.

8926

CSO: 3348/14

COLOMBIA

FOREIGN PROFITS TO BE CHanneled INTO NATIONAL INDUSTRY

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 18 Sep 85 pp 1A, 5A

[Article by Dario Fernando Patino]

[Text] Nearly 20 billion pesos derived from the profits earned by foreign firms in Colombia, funds which are essentially frozen right now, will be channeled into the entire national economy thanks to the government's recent decision to free up the so-called "capital in limbo."

This would be one of the largest infusions of capital ever received by the local production sector, considering that the major currency issuances (usually for more than 50 billion pesos) are used to finance the shortfalls in the state budget.

Among the seven measures adopted this Friday by the National Council for Economic and Social Policy (CONPES) to bring unemployment down somewhat, the release of these funds was proposed as one of the key instruments for establishing new industrial and agroindustrial firms.

The "capital in limbo" comprises the excess profits earned by foreign companies in Colombia. Because these firms bring in more money than they are allowed to remit to their home countries, they must leave the funds here.

Current regulations require that 50 percent of these resources be set aside by the foreign firms to purchase Industrial Development Institute (IFI) bonds (which are issued for a 5-year term with a yearly interest rate of 22 percent) and that the remainder be used as working capital by the company in question.

According to the CONPES decision, the foreign companies may now use that capital to make new investments, without having to channel that money into the IFI.

In the next few days, CONPES itself, along with the other official institutions, will issue the pertinent regulations to allow the money, which is now deposited in the Bank of the Republic, to be placed at the disposal of the foreign firms.



## Positive Measure

The manager of the Industrial Development Institute, Sergio Restrepo Londono, claimed that at this time nearly 20 billion pesos is available for establishing new industries.

He hailed the CONPES decision as a healthy move, since it converts some practically frozen funds into productive investments that will create more jobs.

Last year the IFI received 2.3 billion pesos in profits from foreign firms that could not send the funds out of the country. Since that regulation was implemented, the Institute has floated a total of 6 billion pesos in that kind of bonds.

The low yield of the IFI bonds has discouraged foreign businesses from purchasing them, however, so the government decided it would be better to free up these investment funds.

According to Restrepo Londono, the risk the country runs in taking this step is that more dollars will leave the country each year, given the increase in foreign investment.

He explained that this is offset by the increase in employment and national production.

Moreover, the foreign companies lose when their capital is in limbo, because these pesos are losing their value against the dollar day after day.

With this and six other measures, the government is hoping to keep unemployment from growing quite so fast in the short term. Recently the jobless rate was pegged at 14.24 percent.

According to the strategy outlined this Friday, another way of combatting unemployment will be to expedite the disbursement of public investment funds for the most labor-intensive projects, so that the contracting firms will not stagnate but will actually hire more personnel.

The emphasis will remain on housing construction, while savings and housing corporations will be encouraged to keep their excess liquidity and the Territorial Credit Institute (ICT) will be strengthened.

Steps will be taken to expedite the processing of foreign loans amounting to US \$407 million for investment in rural areas, urban development and rehabilitation zones.

The foreign exchange budget for importing capital goods will be expanded, excluding imports financed over more than 12 years.

The creation of special economic zones or free zones will be promoted, and incentives will be provided for the establishment of agroindustrial companies.

All these measures have just been proposed; none has been actually implemented.

CUBA

#### TV COVERAGE OF RAUL CASTRO'S VISIT TO GUANTANAMO PROVINCE

FLO20320 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 0006 GMT on 2 October carries recorded coverage of Army General Raul Castro's 4-day visit to the 10 municipalities of Guantanamo Province as the leader of a working group of the Central Committee of Cuba's Communist Party.

Coverage begins with the arrival by plane of Raul Castro and group at the Gustavo Rizo Airport, in Baracoa, where Castro is greeted by Raul Michel Vargas, alternate member of the Central Committee, who is the first secretary of the party committee in Guantanamo. The group travels by car to a local hospital, which the group inspects. The group then travels to San Antonio del Sur, where Castro presents local officials with the banner accrediting the town as being ready for defense. The ceremony takes place in the Solidarity With Angola agricultural cooperative, where Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers, speaks briefly.

The group then visits a unit of the Frontier Guards before traveling to Caimanera, where the group visits the 19 December Museum, Raul is shown addressing a group of residents; the announcer explains that he told them that, as he had promised in his visit last July, he is again visiting them to learn about the town's situation and to greet them in Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro's name. Jaime Crombet, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee, addresses the group of residents on plans that exist to raise their standard of living.

The announcer says that Aniceto Perez is another of the municipalities visited, where Raul Castro greets the people of the town and Minister of Agriculture Adolfo Diaz speaks briefly, stressing the high productivity of the student workers. The group inaugurates various social institutions including a polyclinic, and visits a primary school.

The group then visits the municipality of Manuel Tames, where Raul Castro presents the "Ready for Defense" banner. The camera shows the entire town in the main square receiving the group with applause. The group then travels to Bernardo, located in the Yateras Mountains, where it visits the Camilo Cienfuegos rural hospital.

The next municipality visited is El Salvador, where the group visits the Explorers' camp. The camera shows Raul Castro and the group inspecting the installations.

To complete its trip through Guantanamo Province, the group participates in the assessment assembly of the provincial party organization. The camera shows Raul Castro seated on the dais presiding over the assembly. Castro gives Raul Michel Vargas a model of the "Granma" following his re-election as first secretary of the provincial committee, asserting that, like the "Granma," Guantanamo will continue to advance throughout history. Coverage ends at 0012 GMT with a view of Castro applauding as Vargas holds the model aloft.

CSO: 3248/35

CUBA

# VAZQUEZ RANA LAMBASTED FOR 'PERFIDY'

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 36, 6 Sep 85 p 45

[Commentary by Enrique Capetillo: "Lord of the Lies"]

[Text] The Mexican sports czar Mario Vazquez Rana, who is one of the most influential and powerful gentlemen in today's Olympics movement, told several lies about Cuba during a press conference held recently at his little iron-barred, air-conditioned fortress, the headquarters of the Olympics Committee in the Aztec capital. The chief of the chain of EL SOL newspapers and one of the principal hidden stockholders in the "Televisa" consortium, which tries to pass itself off as a mass media organ that is above the law and the prerogatives of the government itself, Vasquez Rana broke the silence after an absence of several months which he spent handing out dollars and gifts to the presidents of the national Olympic committees in the Third World. His objective was to buy consciences for the upcoming Association of National Olympic Committees (ACON) elections, which will take place in the "kindred" city of Seoul next spring.

Vazquez Rana mentioned recent events in Mexican sports, and displayed his usual theatrical style to the utmost. He pounded one of his fists on the polished table, and without blushing in the slightest he spoke of economic austerity and difficult times . . . "For the rest of this year," he stated, "no athlete will leave this country with government support . . . The private sector must contribute more and more to sports development in Mexico . . ." This plaintive assertion prompted a few smiles and even some laughs among the battery of commentators, reporters and photographers who had been gathered together by Don Mario.

Suddenly, a question managed to wipe the almost permanent smile off his face. He gulped, and after a few false starts, he described Fidel Castro as "unfair and ungrateful." What ungratefulness is Mario referring to? We have always behaved respectfully toward this undeserving "friend" who has ended up making common cause with betrayal and lies. A Mexican colleague tells us that immediately afterwards Vazquez Rana joined his hands as if in prayer, to state two lies just as unprecedented and cynical as the previous ones: "I helped Cmdr Castro to open the doors of Latin America to Cuba through sports . . . I contributed to his policy on Latin America."

Let's take things one at a time. In this gentleman's view, Fidel is unfair because he informed international public opinion that Vazquez Rana had betrayed Cuba by selling the site of the 1987 Pan-American Games to the businessmen of Indianapolis for \$25 million. This act has been denounced time and time again. Could it be that because of this corrupt sell-out, Fidel is unjust in claiming that Vazquez Rana is running all over the underdeveloped world passing out gifts and sinecures to bribe his way back into the presidency of the Association of National Olympic Committees?

Don Mario is lying. He is a political illiterate. He is unaware that Cuba has no need for people of his moral standing, and certainly needs no one to open the doors of Latin America to it. Those doors, the doors of the people, of the humble and unredeemed masses, of the dispossessed, of the proletariat, the peasants and the exploited miners, the democratic and honest professionals, the men and women who are torn apart by the way their fatherlands are being bled dry--those doors have always been open to Cuba, and are open wider than ever today.

Vazquez Rana's perfidy knows no bounds. In his meeting with the Mexican press, which knows him perfectly well, he had the audacity to say: "Cuba was never interested in hosting the games." We are not going to go into detail about the repeated gestures our country made in this regard between 1981 and 1984. The press conferences held in Mexico City by Council of Ministers Vice-President Jose Ramon Fernandez and by the head of the Cuban Olympic Committee, Manuel Gonzalez Guerra, provide overwhelming proof of the constant efforts that were made during this period to host the games. The Cuban press also took it upon itself to provide detailed and extensive information about Cuba's betrayal.

Don Mario's attempt has backfired on him. The Mexican press, which just 10 months ago had a front-row seat to watch the cowardly way in which this individual stabbed Cuba in the back and violated the purest precepts of sports, has now accepted the task of refreshing the memory of the president of the Pan-American Sports Organization (PASO). Journalist Armando Satow, of the influential daily UNO MAS UNO, has just exposed these machinations. In a series of five pointed commentaries, he describes the real situation, citing the occasions when Mario reiterated to the Cuban leaders his commitment to give Havana the games if Quito finally gave up that right. The columnist specifies the dates and places of these conversations. Another inestimable value of these columns is that they trace Vazquez Rana's zigzagging trajectory from the moment Cuba announced that it would not attend the Los Angeles Olympic Games. Satow also points out that Vazquez Rana unilaterally suspended the PASO General Assembly that was supposed to take place in Havana in early June, even though representatives of 16 American states had confirmed their attendance.

It was political and monetary motives that dictated Don Mario's treacherous actions. In his expose, the UNO MAS UNO columnist notes that by that time the head of PASO already had established close ties with Indianapolis officials and businessmen, to such an extent that President Reagan had already sent his endorsement in writing.



Vazquez Rana also told journalists that he opposes the proposals formulated by Fidel in a letter to the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), Juan Antonio Samaranch, to the effect that the competitions in the 1988 Olympics should be split between the two Koreas. Considering the source, this assertion does not surprise us. This worthy proposal, which has been evaluated positively by political leaders, chiefs of state, athletes and by public opinion in the Third World, cannot be grasped by this man, because his heart, his mind and his pocket all respond to economic and political interests whose origins are in other latitudes.

Don Mario told a few more falsehoods about Cuba and its leader. Even the Mexican press ignored them, in view of his evident lack of seriousness and his groundless assertions. He failed to note, however, that he himself had cancelled the contract of the Cuban technicians at the Mexican Olympic Center, that Mexican athletes have been the primary victims, and that all Cubans have been barred from the CDOM [expansion unknown]. It was only natural for the Lord of the Lies to omit that information.

8926

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CUBA

HOUSING LAW: OWNERSHIP PROCEDURES FOR LEGITIMATE OCCUPANTS

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 36, 6 Sep 85 pp 48-49

[Article by Susana Tesoro; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Now that we have practically exhausted the theme of the onerous usufructuaries, we are going to talk about those who fit into another category, those who are defined by the law as /legitimate occupants./ These are the people who, though they are not owners or renters, have the right to purchase the property after having received official authorization from the Municipal Housing Offices.

The General Housing Law covers both the legitimate occupants who must pay for the purchase of the property, and those who need not pay.

According to the legal text, /no payment whatsoever/ must be made in the cases included in Paragraphs a, b, ch, d and e of Article 6. The people in question will receive the property by decision of the Municipal Housing Offices.

Article 7 of the law states that people who have been declared legitimate occupants pursuant to the provisions of the aforementioned paragraphs will receive ownership of the property without making any payment.

Paragraph a states: "All persons who have occupied a dwelling owned by a person who resides permanently in the same municipality or another municipality in this country, with the consent of said owner, and continue to occupy said dwelling permanently as if it were their own, provided that the occupant has been granted free usufruct, or if not, that the owner has not withdrawn his consent after the effective date of this Law."

Paragraph b deals with those who remain in a dwelling with a separate entrance and its own utilities in a building that is entirely owned by the owner, with the consent of that owner.

Paragraph c refers to those who live in permanent or vacation residences that they have built at their own expense on deserted land, land bought from another person by means of a private document, land granted by a state agency, or land whose owner is unknown. Paragraph 2 of Article 7 adds in this regard

that if the owner of the land is unknown, the legitimate occupant's right shall be limited to purchasing the ownership of the structure, and he must pay the value of the land when the ownership is legally determined. If 1 year after the law has gone into effect it has not been determined who owns the land, the interested party may pay the state for the perpetual right to the surface of the land, without prejudice to the state's right to return the land to any owner who may appear later.

Paragraph ch covers those who have built a permanent or vacation residence on the roof of a building with the express or implied consent of the persons who have the right to that space.

Paragraph d analyzes the situation of those who received an uninhabitable dwelling and totally rebuilt it at their own expense and occupy that structure as onerous usufructuaries or have been granted free usufruct (those who are in the latter situation and are paying need not pay after the procedures are concluded).

The final paragraph, e, deals with those who do not have to pay to obtain their deed to the property, and those who have been granted free usufruct of a dwelling and then expand the dwelling at their own expense and turn it into a suitable dwelling with the required facilities.

Paragraph 13 of Article 6 states: "The Executive Committee of the Municipal Organ of the People's Government may also declare by means of a justified agreement that other persons who are not onerous usufructuaries and cannot be identified with any of the cases described in the paragraphs in this Article (6) are legitimate occupants if said persons can demonstrate that they are in a similar situation, even if they do not fully meet the aforementioned requirements."

Paragraph 14 indicates that if more than one person claims to be the legitimate occupant and can prove that they are in the corresponding situation, the right to occupancy shall be granted to the person who is the head of the family group that occupies the dwelling, provided that said person resides there; but if that requirement is not met, equal rights shall be granted to all claimants who have proven that they are in the aforementioned situations and have the capacity to contribute to the payment of the price of the dwelling, or to pay it in full.

Nor shall any payment be required of those who fit the description set forth in Paragraph g: "Any person who is permanently occupying a dwelling whose owner has died without bequeathing the property to said occupant, provided that said occupant resided in the dwelling for at least 1 year before the death of the owner, without prejudice to the rights the law grants to the heirs of the deceased." If the heirs waive their right to receive the legal payment for the dwelling, the ownership of the dwelling shall be transferred to the occupant.

All those who feel they are legitimate occupants should present their cases to the corresponding municipal office, because that is the only agency that can determine whether the citizen has the right to remain in that dwelling or must

leave it. Once this has been determined, that same office will decide whether or not any payment must be made to obtain ownership.

We will talk about the legitimate occupants who must pay for ownership in the next installment.

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CUBA

## HIGHLIGHTS OF MAY SYMPOSIUM ON IDEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Havana CUBA SOCIALISTA in Spanish Jul-Aug 85 pp 109-116

[Article by Dr Rolando Garcia Blanco, section chief of the Department of Revolutionary Orientation of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee]

[Excerpts] Under the present circumstances, the patriotic and internationalist education of the populations of socialist countries takes on a special importance. As an integral and inseparable part of communist training, it aids in the struggle against the corrupting influence of the bourgeois ideology and contributes to a stronger socialist consciousness among the people. Both these elements are essential for guaranteeing the defense of the revolution under any circumstances.

In its 25-year history, the Cuban Revolution has not only proven its ability to overcome the difficult conditions that prevailed in the early years, but has also achieved significant progress in the construction of socialism, and has clearly strengthened the patriotic and internationalist consciousness of the masses, as manifested in the participation by tens of thousands of its citizens in economic, social and military support missions to other nations.

These accomplishments have been possible because of the patient and systematic educational work that the party has been carrying out over the past years. In doing so, the party has creatively combined the assimilation of patriotic values with the historical legacy of mankind, in the context of scientific socialism.

This prompted the 2nd Congress of Cuban Communists to assert that in Cuba, "... Marxist-Leninist ideas are profoundly rooted in the patriotic and heroic traditions of our people. Cespedes, Agramonte, Gomez, Maceo and Marti are, in our view, inseparable from Marx, Engels and Lenin. They are united in our consciousness, as are patriotic thought and internationalist thought; national freedom, equality and social justice; the history of one country and the history of the world; the fatherland and mankind."<sup>1</sup>

With this in mind, and in order to enhance the efficiency of the important task of orientating ideological work, in early 1984 the Party Central Committee issued a call for the symposium titled "The Patriotic and Internationalist Education System in the Ideological Work of the Party." The



symposium finally met at the Nico Lopez School of Higher Learning of the Cuban Communist Party on 6 and 7 May this year, as part of the most important activities carried out in honor of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

That event marked the conclusion of a wide-ranging nationwide effort which led to the presentation of more than 300 papers. Sixty of those papers were selected, representing 25 agencies, organizations and institutions from 11 provinces in the country. Some 200 delegates and guests from Cuba, and three delegations from our brother parties in the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic, participated in the symposium. All participants took part in the debates in each of the committees formed for that purpose.

The first of these committees evaluated 10 papers on two different subjects: "Directions, Objectives and Content of the Patriotic and Internationalist Education of the Masses in the Formation of Socialist Convictions," and "Role of the Mass Media in the Patriotic and Internationalist Education Propaganda Aimed at the Masses." Two outstanding papers that were discussed were "Patriotism and Internationalism in Socialist Convictions," by Dr Roberto Verrier Rodriguez; and "The Journalistic Role of One Medium of the Written Press in the Patriotic and Internationalist Education of the New Generations," by Pedro A. Gutierrez and Pedro de la Hoz.

Committee No. 2 was assigned to discuss the following topics: "Military-Patriotic Education Propaganda for the Masses: Its Role in the Multilateral Education of the New Man," and "Patriotism and Internationalism in the Political Education System of the Party, the Union of Young Communists (UJC) and the Mass Organizations." A total of 10 papers were presented. Among them, "The Subversive and Defamatory Content of Bourgeois Criticism and the Internationalist Principle of the Cuban Revolution," by Manuel Hevia Frasquiere, Andres Zaldivar Dieguez and Maria Antonia Roman Motas, proved to be very interesting and relevant. The authors discussed the spurious nature of the main themes which form the foundation of the slanderous and meddling propaganda the imperialists manufacture about our country as part of their strategy to undermine the growing prestige of the world socialist system. Other outstanding papers were: "Patriotism and Internationalism in the Context of the Communist Education of the Younger Generation," by Maria de los Angeles Tovar, Marta Alejandro Delgado and Zenaida Gomez Tano; and "The History of the Cuban Workers' Movement as an Instrument in the Patriotic and Internationalist Education of the Masses," by a group of authors from the Institute of the History of the Communist Movement and the Cuban Socialist Revolution.

The third committee at the symposium was instructed to evaluate the "Practical Experiences of the Patriotic Education Work Carried out by the Party, the UJC and the Mass Organizations." Among the nine papers it studied, "The Influence of Military Activity on the Patriotic and Internationalist Education of the Members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR)," by Lt Col Severino Hernandez Pita and Capt Manuel Prieto Borrego, was particularly noteworthy. Also deserving of mention was "Historical Events Study Teams: A Practical Experience in the Use of History as an Element in the Formation of the

Patriotic and Internationalist Consciousness of our Population," by Arnaldo Jimenez de la Cal.

Committee No. 4 focused on 13 papers covering the subject of "The Role of Cultural Institutions in Patriotic and Internationalist Education." It heard about a number of experiences in the use of media such as libraries and archives, museums and historical monuments, and the work of prestigious institutions such as the Center for Marti Studies and the House of the Americas. Special mention should be made of the paper presented by a group of authors from the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (MINFAR) on the topic, "Agitation and Mass Culture Work and Its Role in the Formation of Patriotic and Internationalist Attitudes among the Combatants in the FAR." This work discusses the important work this institution is pursuing in the education of soldiers and in its contacts with the masses, in close cooperation with the political and mass organizations and the other state and social institutions of the country.

The topic "Patriotic and Internationalist Training in the National Education System" was assigned to Committee No. 5, which debated six papers written by specialists from the Ministries of Education and Culture, and by professors from the University of Havana. Among them, most noteworthy was the work done by a group of authors from the Ministry of Education, in which they evaluated the role of the national education system in the multilateral instruction of the new generations and the role of the teacher as an activist in party politics. The authors also examined the work of Cuban internationalist teachers, who by personal example promote of the profoundly noble, selfless mission they carry out in other lands.

During the deliberations of this same committee, a special speech was given by doctoral candidate Monica Sorin, whose paper "Experience in the Development of Patriotic and Internationalist Attitudes among Cuban Scholars" discussed the practical results she has obtained in her research. She has conducted studies for several years with groups of students at different levels of education. Her speech sparked the interest of delegates and guests alike.

Finally, the sixth committee debated 12 papers on the topic of "Active Solidarity among Nations as an Expression of the Practice of Internationalism." The presentations were given by comrades from the Foreign Ministry, the Public Health Ministry, the Construction Ministry, the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, the Academy of Sciences and the University of Havana. The agenda for this committee's discussions included criticism of the principal distortions by "Cubanologists" regarding the concept of proletarian internationalism, the new kinds of economic relations made possible by the mechanisms of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA), Cuba's economic and scientific-technical cooperation with the countries of the underdeveloped world, and the practical experiences obtained in Cuba's cooperation in the areas of medicine and construction.

Among the papers debated by Committee No. 6, we can mention the one presented by Alda Chevarri Delgado and Enrique Blanco Gomez, titled "Cooperation as a Form of Implementing Internationalism." It illustrated the crucial role the

practice of proletarian internationalism plays in the communist education of those who participate in these missions.

Among the most important aspects that were debated in the symposium, we can mention the following:

-- The irreplaceable leading role of the party in tasks related to the education of our people, particularly the new generations, in socialist patriotism and proletarian and socialist internationalism, as a key requirement for enhancing the orientation of this process.

-- The importance of teaching Cuban history, especially the history of the workers' movement, as an essential element in increasing awareness of the revolutionary struggles our country has undergone and promoting the consolidation of patriotic convictions.

-- The need to extol the work of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, which are deserving of such praise for the vital role they have been assigned in the defense of the fatherland, and the part they have played in the communist education of officers and soldiers and in the process of providing the population in general and new generations in particular with a multilateral education.

-- The urgent need to study the principal diversionary tactics employed by the enemy to discredit the Cuban Revolution's foreign policy and, above all, the classist and internationalist nature of these tactics, for the purpose of proving scientifically that these theories are out of date and exposing the real reactionary objectives of the "Cubanologists."

-- The as yet insufficiently exploited potential of extracurricular activities and of all courses that are given at the different levels of the national education system to contribute to the increased patriotic and internationalist awareness of the students and to their multilateral education, and the irreplaceable link between the school and the family in obtaining that objective.

--- The extraordinary role played by those who set an example by carrying out heroic actions in defense of the fatherland and of socialism, and in the fields of teaching, production, services and scientific efforts.

-- The ineluctible requirement to promote an endless variety of methods to encourage the necessary emotional involvement in scheduled activities, to avoid formalism, habituation and the duplication of efforts aimed at the same objective, taking into consideration the specific characteristics of the different social and age groups of the population.

-- The important role of artistic and literary expression in the transmission of knowledge and convictions to contribute to the people's patriotic and internationalist education.

-- The very important work the mass media have done and continue to do with increasing effectiveness not only to keep the public informed, but also to

raise their cultural level, their aesthetic tastes, and the consolidation of their moral principles.

-- The need to plan sectoral historic research to demonstrate the work carried out by the different ideological media during the past 26 years, with regard to the patriotic and internationalist education of the population, the principal experiences in this area and possibilities for improvement.

-- The importance of promoting interdisciplinary scientific studies to determine the role of the internationalist missions in forming a true communist consciousness among the people.

-- The benefits of promoting a high-ranking field of professional specialization covering the theory of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism. These professionals would be able to assimilate the positive experiences gained in other countries and to generalize them, bearing in mind the specific conditions prevailing in Cuba, with a view to perfecting this educational process uninterruptedly.

As part of the program, delegates at the symposium were privileged to hear an interesting report by Jose Ramon Fernandez, a member of the Party Central Committee. Fernandez outlined the main conclusions reached by the special task force that is studying the best ways, forms and methods to build an integral system to coordinate by sector and by educational level the efforts being made in our society to provide for the patriotic and internationalist education of the people, especially the new generations.

In his speech, Comrade Fernandez showed how "education and defense are necessary social phenomena that are dialectically united in the socialist revolution." He also revealed how the intensive activity aimed at enhancing the combative preparedness of our people and their love for the Revolutionary Armed Forces is a key factor in guaranteeing that the idea of the /war effort by all of the people/ [passage enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface] will become an integral part of the people's political culture, as the principal means for preserving the peace by its own efforts.

The speeches presented by the delegates from brother socialist countries at the plenary sessions were significant events in the program. In these presentations, they described the combative and united attitudes of their peoples, and discussed some of the experiences their parties have had in guiding the ideological work at hand.

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CUBA

## SECOND MEETING OF REGIONAL INTELLECTUALS PLANNED FOR YEAR'S END

Havana CUBA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish Aug 85 p 90

[Article by Ciro Bianchi Ross]

[Excerpts] The 2nd Meeting of Intellectuals for the Sovereignty of the Peoples of Our America will be held in Havana on 29 and 30 November and 1 December of this year.

The meeting, which will take place at the headquarters of the House of the Americas, will be attended by more than 100 delegates from Latin American and Caribbean countries, plus Cuban representatives.

In addition to writers and artists, the guests will include journalists and scientists, whose participation was hardly taken into consideration due to their accidental omission by the organizers of the previous gathering.

Three working committees will hold sessions during the 2nd Meeting.

The first will discuss the topic "Culture, Democracy, Sovereignty and Peace in Our America." "Science and Art as Factors in the Cultural Development of Latin America and the Caribbean" will be on the agenda of the second committee, while the third will study the preponderant role of information and its implications for the lives of the region's peoples.

Each of these topics is subdivided into several points, which touch on issues such as the struggle for democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean, culture and unity among the countries of the area, research projects which will contribute to the development of national interests, science and art in the university context, mechanisms for disinformation implemented by the transnational news corporations, and the new international information order and its formulation in this part of the world.

Dozens of prestigious intellectuals have already confirmed that they will attend the upcoming meeting in Havana.

In September 1981 the 1st Meeting of Intellectuals for the Sovereignty of the Peoples of Our America was held in the Cuban capital. At that gathering, the participants refused to allow any ideological differences to divide them, and



reaffirmed the need for writers and artists to take united action. They also stressed their function of defending the best causes of the people, and their cultural identity.

The final declaration of the event condemned the Yankee interventionist policy, the uncontrolled arms race unleashed by the Reagan administration, and the latter's preparations for a war that could lead to the total devastation of the world.

That declaration was actually a starting point, rather than an ending.

Before concluding the sessions of the meeting, the participants elected a Permanent Committee of Intellectuals to continue the tasks set forth at the meeting and to put its postulates into practice.

Among other tasks, that Committee was instructed to form national committees in Latin American and Caribbean countries to promote the Meeting, and to hold meetings and dialogues with North American intellectuals.

The 2nd Meeting will take place during a difficult period for the world, when the economic crisis and the foreign debt, the political blackmail and the threats of direct military intervention by the American imperialists overshadow not only the future of our America, but also its present.

On behalf of these peoples, more than 100 writers and scientists from all over the Americas will speak in Havana. In their presentations, they will give life to the words of Lope de Vega: "Because my voice has become the soul of your silence."

8926

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CUBA

## REVIEW OF 1985 TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH USSR

Havana CUBA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish Aug 85 p 13

[Excerpts] As part of its goal of substantially increasing Cuban trade with the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA), with trade expected to total more than 10.2 billion rubles in 1985 (a 10 percent growth over the 1984 total), Cuba has signed the largest annual trade agreement ever with the Soviet Union. This pact, which covers the year 1985, will involve a total of 8.2 billion rubles.

The protocol was signed in Moscow by Ricardo Cabrisas and Nikolai Patolichev, the Cuban and Soviet foreign trade ministers. It calls for bilateral Cuban-Soviet trade amounting to double the total reported in 1980. By June, partially all of the contracts corresponding to the proposed increase in trade had already been signed.

Among the key areas of trade governed by the pact, increases are planned in Cuban sales of sugar and other sugarcane derivatives, nickel, citrus fruits and other products. The Soviet Union, for its part, will step up deliveries of petroleum and derivatives, fresh and canned food products, steel plates, fertilizers for agricultural development, machinery and equipment, and a great variety of industrial items.

Independently, the Soviet Union will continue its longer-term cooperation in the installation of major industrial projects in this Caribbean nation, especially in the development of the nickel plants at Punta Gorda and Moa; in the large thermonuclear plant at Juragua, Cienfuegos; in the development of the prospecting, exploitation, management and refining of Cuban petroleum; in the steel and metallurgical industry, with special emphasis on Antillana de Acero and the metalworking plant at Santa Clara; and in many top-priority projects such as a spinning mill, cement manufacturing plants and others.

Within the context of this agreement, it was reported that the program to coordinate the Cuban and Soviet economies during the 1986-1990 5-year period is progressing very well, and the corresponding pact will be signed this year.

The overall growth in trade between the two countries is significant, because although 1984 was a record year in these bilateral ties, with trade totaling 7.2 billion rubles, in 1985 the annual trade figure is expected to be a hefty 1 billion rubles higher.

CUBA

DATA ON COOPERATIVIZATION PUBLISHED

Havana ANAP in Spanish Aug 85 p 20

<u>National and Provinces</u>	<u>Total CPA*</u>	<u>Coop. Area</u>	<u>Sugar Coop. Area</u>	<u>Non-Sugar Area</u>	<u>Total Members</u>	<u>Sugar Members</u>	<u>Non-Sugar Members</u>
National	1,410	74,359.4	29,802.3	44,557.1	72,564	31,481	41,083
Pinar del Rio	180	6,920.2	542.4	6,377.4	9,644	883	8,761
Havana	73	3,823.5	3,318.2	505.3	5,821	4,234	1,587
Matanzas	74	6,748.0	5,718.0	1,030.0	7,995	6,862	1,133
Villa Clara	126	7,280.2	4,350.0	2,930.2	7,854	4,364	3,490
Cienfuegos	54	2,529.1	1,698.4	830.7	2,267	1,707	560
Sancti Spiritus	71	4,574.3	2,020.3	2,554.0	5,407	2,036	3,371
Ciego de Avila	69	4,351.2	2,977.4	1,373.8	3,997	2,643	1,354
Camaguey	99	6,355.1	2,857.9	3,497.9	4,788	2,238	2,550
Las Tunas	59	3,167.4	1,927.4	1,240.0	2,983	1,982	1,001
Holguin	145	7,721.6	1,632.0	6,089.6	5,647	1,459	4,188
Granma	157	7,023.7	1,251.0	5,772.7	5,384	1,280	4,104
Santiago de Cuba	142	7,017.1	1,210.0	5,807.1	6,855	1,535	5,320
Guantanamo	155	6,722.0	298.9	6,423.1	3,809	258	3,551
Isle of Youth	6	126.0	—	126.0	113	—	113

\*CPA = Agricultural-Livestock Cooperatives

8926

CS0: 3248/26

CUBA

## 112,000 PAIRS OF SHOES REJECTED; SANCTIONS LEVIED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 36, 6 Sep 85 pp 55-56

[Article by Alberto Pozo]

[Text] Now this is indeed a good sign: Between 1 January and 20 August this year, the domestic trade sector has rejected 112,942 pairs of shoes manufactured by light industry.

The shoes have been rejected for three reasons: wrong classification, improper pricing, and signs of falling apart.

Wrong classification means that pairs of shoes are passed off as Grade 1 when they are actually Grade 2, or as Grade 2 when they are really Grade 3. This improper classification is by far the primary reason for the above-mentioned rejections.

Improper pricing means that the shoes bear a price tag that is not in keeping with their features. As for the third reason, signs of falling apart, that is self-explanatory.

Why do we say that the rejection by the domestic commerce sector of 112,942 pairs of shoes produced by light industry is a good sign?

Because domestic trade should be the representative of the people and should defend them from all kinds of inefficiency. Until now, however, in many cases this sector merely filed complaints with the light industry sector.

Complaints do not improve quality, which is an indication of respect for the people. Usually, a communication would be sent to the industry, calling its attention to the deficiencies that had been discovered. The criticism was accepted in good faith, and it began to be processed through the appropriate channels . . . But words are words, and letters are letters!

Merchandise that is defective for one reason or another must be returned so that the industry that manufactured it must incur the economic losses. After all, the squeaky wheel gets the grease.

To be fair, this situation was revealed at the recent general council on light industry, which was chaired by Minister of Light Industry Roberto Ogando. The minister himself appealed to the press to give wide coverage to this problem so that the firms producing shoddy merchandise will be held accountable in public.

Previously, after reading his report, the Office of Standardization, Weights and Measures, and Quality Control of the Ministry of Light Industry (MINIL) had emphasized that the businesses themselves bear full responsibility for these problems, and that the domestic trade sector is completely justified. This attitude should be commended.

The firms guilty of these deficiencies are the shoe manufacturers of Matanzas, Camaguey, Villa Clara and Havana, the Van Troi, Men's Shoes, Western Shoes, and Women's Shoes Enterprises.

Now that we have gotten the message across to the reader loud and clear, let us fill in the rest of the picture so that it will not be just black and white, but in color, like real life.

Actually, the rejection of the 112,942 pairs of shoes does not mean that all of them were defective; only a few were. But the contracts establish what is called the Acceptable Level of Quality. This means that if 4 to 6 pairs of shoes out of every 100 pairs in a lot are defective (the exact number changes according to the specifications), the whole lot is rejected.

Let us cite an example to illustrate the situation better. A shipment of 2,270 pairs was rejected; actually, only 290 pairs were defective. This represents 10 percent of the total, which is unacceptable according to the contract.

One other point should be borne in mind. Until last year, all orthopedic shoes, which accounted for 33 percent of the returns, were manufactured at the Ingelmo plant. It was felt that producing them all in just one place militated against variety in models. As a result, production was spread around to several workshops. Orthopedic footwear is very complex, however; almost every pair must be treated as a unique case. The lack of experience meant that this change took its toll.

Aside from these two aspects, the mass rejections were motivated by other factors as well.

The domestic trade sector's mechanisms for standardization, weights and measures, and quality control have been gathering strength. This is true of both wholesale companies (as in the case of two firms involved in this case, the national warehousing enterprise and the enterprise of the Peoples Government of Havana) and municipal retail companies, which have direct control over the stores.

It so happens that the retailers are demanding higher quality from the wholesalers, and they in turn are making more demands on the suppliers.



Moreover, the establishment of the Central Group and the subgroups, with a very compelling style of confrontation and competitiveness, is driving standards ever upward . . .

Deficiencies in the area of quality control and the technical-organizational apparatus of light industry have been brought to light.

The fact is that the first blows by the domestic commerce sector (that is, the rejections) took light industry by surprise. It was too stunned to react, and continued to receive sharp rebukes until 20 August.

By that time, however, light industry had gotten its second wind. It has responded to the situation with a series of sanctions against those who are directly to blame. Let us look at the case of the Jose Luis Chaviano factory in Villa Clara. The administrator was penalized with a 50-percent pay cut for 1 month; two shift supervisors were docked 20 percent, and one was docked 25 percent. In another case, the quality control chief of the Conrado Benitez plant of the Women's Shoes Enterprise was removed; the chief of production suffered a 15-percent pay cut; two shift supervisors were docked 15 percent, and one was docked 10 percent. The list goes on.

We assume that the directors of these enterprises, seeing their neighbors' difficulties, will put their own houses in order.

Partly to alert the other sectors of light industry, we cite the following figures: 5,000 articles of clothing (slacks and nurse's smocks) were sent back to the women's clothing manufacturer, "Modistura," because the size 24's had an extra button. And the Men's Clothing Enterprise had a lot of 13,320 undershorts returned because of a badly sewn seam.

The number of shoes rejected so far actually amounts to only 1.01 percent of production; clothing rejections total 0.20 percent. These two indices are below the internationally accepted limit.

The important thing is that by keeping its standards high, domestic trade can make a decisive contribution to the quality of the light industry products that are sold to the people. In addition, there is hope in the fact that lighting up the outside also lights up the inside of the house; therefore, the quality of its services and treatment of the public will also improve.

8926  
CS0: 3248/26

CUBA

## PROBLEMS IN RECOVERY OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 17, 26 Apr 85 pp 28-31

[Article by Rafael Garcia]

[Text] In a recent press tour, we were fortunate enough to meet some men and women who reminded us that we must carry out the pleasant and valuable task of looking further into the best human motivations.

The people whose lives are governed by their work obligations from the moment they rise to the moment they retire, without thinking of schedules or days, belong to the select group of souls who get more out of life than anyone else, and in a shorter period of time.

This took place in the municipalities of Playa, in Havana; and Mariel, Guanajay and Jaruco, in Havana Province.

Teresa Gutierrez Perez, head of the municipal center for Raw Materials Recovery in Playa, defends the interests and proclaims the importance of her enterprise as if it were a personal endeavor.

"Not long ago," she says, "a housewife called us and said: 'Hey, come and pick up some trash I have here.' Since I knew what she was about, I said: 'Perhaps you are unaware that we do not deal in such things; tell me what kind of trash it is, so I can give you the phone number of Community Services or the Pigfeed Plan.' Then she corrected me: 'No, no, I am not referring to that kind of trash; I mean what you people collect.' 'Oh, now I understand. You mean reusable raw materials, and that is not trash.'"

Teresa has been working at this for 19 years. She has gone through the different development stages of the enterprise: from practically having to beg people to turn over industrial waste from factories and workshops, service centers and homes, with pitiful resources for carrying out her task; to the present situation in which most people no longer consider the recovery of raw materials almost the same thing as running a dump. Moreover, she now has more means and resources at her disposal, which raises the enterprise's economic ranking considerably.

This year, the Raw Materials Recovery Enterprise will supply the domestic economy with products that will replace a total of \$65 million in imports, and its exports will total \$40 million.

Teresa and the other comrades with whom we talked about this matter believe that if everyone had more interest in recovering raw materials; if the transportation, industrial, agricultural and services sectors provided more support; and if there were more collection sites with the necessary conditions, the present achievements could be even greater.

The development of a country depends on its foreign trade, on what it buys and sells. Both factors complement each other, because no country can supply all its own needs.

Emilio Rodriguez Martinez is also fascinating when he talks about his work, which he has been doing for as long as Teresa has. In Guanajay, to say "recovery of raw materials" is to say "Emilio," and vice-versa. He is the buyer for the municipal center.

If Teresa talks people into becoming supporters of her cause through the force of her reasoning and her persuasive words, Emilio wins them over with his friendly face and his pleasant manner.

"My wife tells me: ' . . . But you don't live, you don't have a spare moment or a free day when they don't come looking for you to work,' and I answer her, 'What am I going to do? That's the way my job is,'" he says in such a simple and matter-of-fact way that he seems to be saying: "I exist, don't I? Then I have to breathe."

"One time," he adds, "we were celebrating my wife's birthday at home--it was a Sunday--when a comrade came with a cart full of raw materials. He said, 'Emilio, I need for you to buy this from me.' I left my family and went to the center to make the transaction. Thus, three birds were killed with one stone: The raw materials were not wasted, the man got a few pesos that he needed, and I was left with a clear conscience."

Efforts to recover raw materials still run into many difficulties in raising the economic results still higher.

In businesses, factories and workshops plans are drawn up to deliver waste materials in amounts well below the real potential, and these plans do not fully comply with the established regulations, which require the preservation of the materials and separation into different groups.

For example, when non-ferrous metals (copper, bronze, aluminum and steel) are received mixed together, each ton sells abroad for \$75; in addition, the customer may go elsewhere, because such combined shipments are less desirable.

When the materials are shipped separately, however, the prices are higher: copper sells for more than \$1,000 a ton, bronze for \$800, aluminum for \$900, and steel for \$100. The same is true of ferrous metals.

Paper also has different rates. White paper with no printing on it sells for \$300 a ton, but if different papers are mixed, the price is \$50.

As for textile wastes, the situation is similar. If fabric is not separated by type and color, the buyers lower the price considerably, in proportions similar to those that apply to paper.

The Raw Materials Recovery Enterprise also sets the prices paid to state and private suppliers in accordance with these regulations.

When it is determined that these rules are not being followed in the production or service centers that are major sources of raw material wastes and reusable materials, a double mistake is made.

Above all, they appear to be unaware that Law 1288 covers all aspects of the recovery and reuse of raw material wastes and reusable products and materials derived from production processes and the repair of machinery, equipment and facilities.

In addition, if more waste is delivered divided up according to content and quality, the price will be higher, and that will improve the economic situation of the supplier.

When we visited the center in Jaruco, the most comfortable and orderly of all those we saw, we learned the following: Until a short time ago, sheep's wool from Cuban agriculture and livestock enterprises was not recovered. Part was used to line horses' saddle pads, and the rest was discarded.

In 1984, 14 tons of wool was recovered; this wool sells for \$3,470 abroad. This year a total of 9 tons is expected to be recovered. We were told that if there were enough transportation to go to all the places where sheep are sheared and if all the agriculture and livestock enterprises did their part to use all the wool, some 20 tons could be recovered each year.

At the Comrade Benitez wire factory in San Jose, to cite another example, the left-over top-grade copper is mixed with the lower-grade left-overs, despite repeated admonishments from the comrades at Raw Materials Recovery.

Since they deliver the copper in that form, they receive 300 pesos per ton; if they separated it according to quality, they would receive 500 pesos per ton of top-grade copper and 300 pesos per ton of the other copper.

This happens with copper exports, also. Top-grade copper fetches some \$1,500 a ton, but mixed grades of copper bring in \$500 less per ton.

One means of encouraging the recovery of raw materials has been to set up stores for the direct purchase and exchange of industrial items for waste materials.

In 1984, the volume of purchases rose to 11,319,800 pesos throughout the country, where some 250 establishments of this type are in operation.

By adapting and building centers, the enterprise has expanded its ability to recover waste materials, and projects an image of outright economic prosperity.

At the same time, the management and employees who work in these stores and in other activities of the enterprise are becoming more and more efficient and able representatives of their enterprise.

Some irregularities are still observed in these stores, and they must be eliminated as soon as possible so that people who have just begun to patronize them are not discouraged from pursuing that habit.

These irregularities are: laxness about maintaining regular hours for opening and closing the stores, insufficient funds for purchase transactions, inadequate or vague information provided to customers, and shortages of some products for exchange.

It is not enough to legislate everything that has to do with the recovery of reusable raw materials, to provide the enterprise with more centers and better transportation, or even to present a promising future in this sector. Nor is it enough for the State Arbitration Service to provide consultation to suppliers.

We will always depend to a certain extent on the good will of suppliers, in the sense that they must not waste anything usable and must ensure that the shipments reach the collection centers, and the efficiency of these centers must be guaranteed in all respects.

The Raw Materials Recovery Enterprise is not just one more economic entity. Because of its commercial characteristics and its economic importance to our country, one might say that it is in a class by itself.

Its cadres, officials and workers must possess special qualities. They must be as good at buying as they are at selling, which all the implications that entails in terms of public and commercial relations, and as a common denominator, they must be totally dedicated to what they do.

The enterprise is gaining ground in this regard. At the centers we visited and in the conversations we had with various cadres and officials, we noted that a new concept of how to carry out this task is emerging.

Any memories we may have of problems in the distant past when the enterprise was just getting started vanish in the face of its present state. The begging of the past has become a well-founded exhortation, and the anonymity with which it used to work has given way to a widespread and growing recognition of its efforts, in keeping with the obvious economic results it is yielding day after day.

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CSO: 3248/9



CUBA

BRIEFS

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**FAR SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL CREATED**--The FAR Scientific Council was organized today at the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces amphitheater. Presided over by Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, Central Committee member, FAR first vice minister, and chief of the general staff, the scientific council will issue reports on scientific research projects to improve military techniques on the country's defense tasks. Doctorate candidates and specialists favored greater training for scientific cadres and noted that the youth is the source to develop this area in the future. The Council of State agreed to confer the Igancio Agramonte medal, third class, to a group of comrades for their outstanding research work in recent year. Others, received the Distinguished Service medal, acknowledge by the FAR by their scientific contributions. [Text] Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Oct 85 FL]

**POSITIVE OUTLOOK FOR BEE PRODUCTS**--Cuba has always been a country with a well-earned reputation for its top-flight beekeeping industry and its powerful export potential in the areas of high-quality honey, wax, royal jelly and propolis. Thus, blessed with favorable ecological conditions and the growing technological development of the field, honey production and other related areas are covered today by a program under the National Beekeeping Enterprise that is expected to yield 15,000 tons of honey per year by 1990. Now, 5 years away from that target year, it can already be said that the goal will be surpassed by far, not only quantitatively, but also fundamentally in terms of qualities without equal in the world. For 1985, the plan calls for 11,000 tons of bee honey to be delivered; by the end of the first 4 months of the year 3,012 tons had already been produced, which indicates that the target will be reached easily. It should be noted that the best months for honey collection are in the spring and summer. As for wax, by the end of April the equivalent of 124 percent of the total called for in the plan had already been obtained. Royal jelly, a product that is in great demand on international markets today and is also in short supply (it is segregated in very small quantities by the hypopharynx gland of the worker bees), is already included in the Cuban beekeeping production plans. Propolis, the gummy, resinous substance that comes from the buds of trees and has many therapeutic properties, is also being studied. Of particular importance is pollen, which has an incalculable potential for providing aminoacids. This should be one of the most interesting areas of production in the future, given that the country is in an excellent position to extract this product. [Excerpts] [Havana CUBA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish Aug 85 p 13] 8926

CSO: 3248/14

ECUADOR

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS COASTAL SHELF BORDER

PA210255 Paris AFP in Spanish 2012 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Quito, 19 Sep (AFP)--Ecuador extended its marine and submarine borders today when it proclaimed its rights to the continental shelf, consisting of the seabed and subsoil between the continental territorial waters and the Galapagos Islands.

In his decree, President Leon Febres Cordero said that scientific investigations have revealed the existence of important natural resources on the seabed and subsoil of this area.

Ecuador and its neighbors on the southeastern Pacific Coast--Chile, Peru, and Colombia--were the first to claim 200 miles of territorial sea, which is prescribed in international law and is enforced.

Foreign Minister Edgar Teran defended the government decision "because the principles of the law of the sea and the principles of our laws have been applied in projecting Ecuadoran rights."

He reiterated that the sea is a source of hope for peoples because of the resources it offers and "the huge and unexploited resources of the continental shelf."

According to the explanations given by the minister, on the maps, the existence of the Carnegie range, which allows the application of the isobath of 2,500 meters in depth, plus 100 miles to the north and south, allows Ecuador the right to a continental shelf almost as long as its continental coasts.

CSO: 3348/43

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

PRESIDENTIAL HOUSEHOLD CHIEF--Colonel Marcelo Delgado is the new military chief of the presidential household. He replaces Division General Cristobal Carrillo, who was promoted by President Leon Febres Cordero recently.  
[Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 31 Aug 85 PA]

BUCARAM REMOVED FROM POST--By a vote of 11 to 4 the Guayaquil cantonal council has removed Mayor Abdala Bucaram Ortiz after finding him guilty of carrying out political activities [actividades politicas] while in office, and other constitutional guarantees, and after confirming that he is not physically present to continue to hold that office. After some legal challenges by several councilmen, council vice president Jorge Norero took over the post of mayor on the basis of Article 82. The councilmen of the FRA [Alfarist Radical Front], CFP [Concentration of Popular Forces], and Social Christian Party were joined by Popular Democracy councilman Alex Aguayo and independent and former CFP councilman Antonio Adum in obtaining the majority needed. The cantonal council, meeting in extraordinary session for the fourth time in 8 days, decided to remove Abdala Bucaram after FRA councilman Edgar Mendoza reiterated his charges against the municipal official. Most of his charges were based on Bucaram's electoral and proselytizing activities and the fact that he is not present to continue in the post. [Text] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Sep 85]

CSO. 3348/43

GUYANA

REVIEW OF COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH CUBA UNDER WAY

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 19 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

**A REVIEW of co-operation agreements in the technical, economic and cultural fields between Guyana and Cuba has recorded progress in several areas, an official of the Department of International Economic Co-operation (DIEC) said yesterday morning.**

**With regard to the programme of scientific technical assistance, a completion rate of 60 per cent of projects identified at the 10th Mixed Commission meeting, has been achieved, the official said.**

**Several aspects of the education and cultural agreement between the two countries will be implemented shortly, in which English and Spanish teachers would be exchanged between the two countries. A number of such exchanges have already taken place.**

**In addition, talks centred on activities for trade and technical co-operation for 1986, in advance of the 11th Joint Commission meeting which is scheduled for Havana in January next year.**

**The 10th Mixed Commission meeting was held in Georgetown in January this year.**

**Leading the Cuban delegation was Cde Roberto Rivas, Director of the Americas in the State Committee for Economic Collaboration in Cuba, while the Guyanese team was headed by Cde Donald Abrams, head of DIEC.**

**The Cubans are expected to leave the country this week. (GNA)**

/8309

CSO: 3298/73



GUYANA

COOPERATION WITH INDIA IN ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL FIELDS NOTED

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 9 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

SEVERAL possibilities for co-operation between Guyana and India in economic and technical fields have been opened through initial discussions between Finance Minister Carl Greenidge and his Indian counterpart, Finance and Trade Minister C.P. Singh and other senior Indian Government officials.

Among the areas considered were the holding in Guyana of an exhibition of India's industrial capabilities, the purchase of Indian machinery and tools, the fabrication of spare parts in Guyana, concessionary financing for a variety of projects, collaboration in planning, and co-operation in agricultural research activities, particularly as regards training of personnel, and availability of data and equipment.

Cde. Greenidge is hopeful that as a result of the discussions, there will be an early convening of the Guyana-India Joint Commission which could serve to institutionalise the arrangements.

The consultations took place while Cde. Greenidge

was in India in July for a ministerial meeting on Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP).

The meeting for which Cde. Greenidge was elected one of the three Vice-Presidents, reviewed progress on the 1982 Ministerial Declaration on early implementation of the GSTP. The meeting, described as a success by the Guyana Finance Minister, also examined the international trading environment as it affects trade of developing countries.

One of the officials receiving Cde. Greenidge was the head of Division for Vegetable Crops and Joint Director of Research of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

It was indicated the Institute would be prepared to collaborate with Guyana in the field of training. The Institute's experience in the cultivation of grains under a variety of ecological conditions is one of the areas in which it is thought Guyana

can benefit. And information on some of the Institute's novel approaches, has been forwarded to the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI).

Cde. Greenidge also met with the Chairman of the National Small Industries Corporation of India, who indicated the Corporation's willingness to engage in programmes of co-operation with Guyana.

It was agreed that arrangements for Guyana to host an exhibition of Indian machinery would be finalised as soon as required by Guyana.

Discussions with officials of the Indian State Planning Commission also opened the possibility for further work with the local Planning Commission.

Meanwhile, commenting on the GSTP meeting, Cde. Greenidge said it was a rather unique meeting in that it brought together a number of the Third World's Trade and Finance Ministers who are the main architects concerned with revamping the System of Trade Preferences.

—(GNA)

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CSO: 3298/73

GUYANA

HOYTE DISCUSSES ISSUES, PERSONAL LIFE IN INTERVIEW

Remarks to Reporter

Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 8 Sep 85 pp 8, 13

[Article by Claudette Earle: "President Hugh Desmond Hoyte: Developing a Style of Statesmanship"]

[Text] The new President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana is a tall, handsome, bespectacled, greying man.

His deportment is precise and purposeful. His face is serious. But when he smiles, his face is youthful and alight with a kind of boyish mirth.

One month ago, Hugh Desmond Hoyte, lawyer-politician assumed the office of Executive President following the death of President Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham. Since then, he has asserted himself as a leader with the qualities of strength and sensitivity. He is a quiet man and a very private person who is now thrust into the limelight where kings and statesmen meet.

On meeting him, you sense that underneath the charm and the wit and the profound good sense, lies a controlled strength.

He could be a formidable foe.

He comes at a time when the destiny of the Guyanese nation is poised, delicately balanced. The People's National Congress which he now leads has reaffirmed its maturity and shows the world that it is complete, whole and intact.

Hugh Desmond Hoyte has already demonstrated a prodigious capacity for work and has stamped his style of statesmanship on this nation. He wants the business of this nation to go on, rapidly. He cannot abide fools and incompetence and will brook no nonsense from public servants.

Last Friday, in an interview with the SUNDAY CHRONICLE, President Hugh Desmond Hoyte allowed us a glimpse of his private world. He was accommodating, unassuming, charming and serious during the interview which was filmed.

We learnt that the President likes classical music, jazz and the songs of BOB MARLEY. He knows the music of LIONEL RITCHIE, MADONNA and BOY GEORGE, though he doesn't care much for them. He loves cook-up, but he cannot cook.

He likes the sculpture of OMOWALE LUMUMBA and other young artists.

His staff told us that the President could only give us half an hour of his time. But he spent all of 40 minutes talking and listening. It is difficult to parenthesise a mind such as Hugh Desmond Hoyte's, for when he warms to a topic he deals comprehensively with it.

He answered all of my questions.

Although he has brushed personal tragedy aside, he has not, as some people think, a heart of stone. [President Hoyte lost his only two children in a road accident last April. His wife was also injured.]

In an interview a few weeks ago Vice-President Viola Burnham said that Hugh Desmond Hoyte wept openly when he first saw the dead body of his Leader.

Recently in a move to make good quality rice readily available on the local market, President Hoyte took a handful of low-grade rice from a State store and went to rice authorities and demanded an explanation.

"This rice is not fit for human beings!" he exclaimed in disgust.

President Hoyte, 56, describes himself as an introvert who has to become extroverted.

Asked how he feels now, after one month as President, Hugh Desmond Hoyte replied:

"I feel rather reassured in a way that I could not have predicted. If I could have foreseen what was going to happen I would have thought that this period would be one of great difficulty for me--difficulty in re-adjustment, difficulty in trying to understand things, difficulty in trying to get the support of people in the society.

"There has been, first of all, a great deal of goodwill from all sections of the society, many assurances of willingness to cooperate and be supportive. And that was strengthening, considerably. But most important of all, I think has been the smooth transition following the death of our Founder-Leader. And this is not something that has happened accidentally. It is the culmination of the work of the Founder-Leader who has been grooming systems and building institutions to provide for this very eventuality. So that what we have seen, I venture to say, is a country which has matured considerably "in its political life."

Already you have impressed on the nation your style of leadership. For instance on the rice issue you went down yourself and looked at the quality and quantity of rice available to consumers. Guyanese were impressed with this show of concern. Can we expect more of your personal intervention in issues concerning people?

"Obviously, I will bring my own style to bear upon the office of the Presidency and the leadership of our party. Our Founder-Leader had a unique and inimitable style. It would be foolish to try to imitate that, and certainly one would not be able to do that. So I will have my own style.

"I felt that in the circumstances of the distribution problem, it was appropriate for me to intervene because we were dealing with something which is vital to the life of our people. An important staple of food was not being distributed correctly because of mal-administration and bungling within the bureaucracy. I had to intervene. And if it happens again either in that sector or other sectors I will intervene again.

"What we need to do is to get our systems straight. The problem is with inadequacy or absence of systems. And I will be spending a lot of time looking at that part of our organisation. On the question of rice again I feel strongly that feeding our people with a staple that is produced in this country must be an absolute priority. I don't think that anything can take a priority over that.

People understand, if they can't get cheese and butter and so on. They will grumble. That's natural. But they will not become angry. But I believe they will become angry if we cannot deliver to them sugar and rice which we produce right here and of which we are exporters. My position is a very simple one. We must arrange to have the things we produce here distributed in adequate quantities."

#### About the Five-year Development Plan

"We have been working on the Plan for quite some time. Even now planners are considering the penultimate draft for submission to the Cabinet. Now that Plan will set out what we have to do in the agricultural sector over the next five years. It is important because we have placed a great emphasis on agriculture. We have said that it is the foundation, so to speak, of our economic effort. We have to help our farmers produce more efficiently and we have to ensure that the produce reach the consumer. One problem we have in agriculture in this country is the high-level of post-harvest losses. Produce spoil. That is the kind of loss we cannot accept in our society. We have been doing a number of things in storage, drying facilities, transportation facilities. We have to do much more."

The brilliancy of the television lamps is merciless and the air-conditioned office of the President grows warmer by the minute. This must be endured if the video cameramen are to get the footage they need.

President Hoyte dressed in cream-coloured shirt-jac speaks easily, punctuating some remarks with smiles or short bursts of laughter. You would think he was oblivious to the lights, the cameras and the fuss.



I ask a question that was not on my list. It concerns relations with the People's National Congress and the Minority People's Progressive Party.

"The PNC has no particular interest in a one-party state. However, we don't accept that the best political system for us is one in which you have a party in government and a party calling itself an opposition which sees its role in a merely negative way, which believes that its task is to oppose everything the government does, criticise and try to disrupt the smooth running of Government.

"That is why in our constitution, we no longer talk about the leader of the opposition. We talk of the Minority Leader. And that is to emphasise the point that is not necessarily a conflictual situation in the National Assembly or in the national political life. There ought to be room for all socioeconomic organisations and political parties whether they form part of the ruling party or not, there ought to be room for them to play a part in development. It is the duty of the Government to create the avenues for these organisations to play a role which they find possible.

"With the PPP, what we are saying is this: Surely there must be some areas where we can agree. Let us take agriculture. If we agree that we must emphasise agriculture, if we agree that we must fight to give the farmer the opportunity for a better life, if we agree that we want increased production and productivity in agriculture, surely then we can come up with a common plan which all of us can push, so that you know this is not an area of conflict. There may be other areas, both internally and externally.

There may be some foreign policy issues on which we agree. This is a national position. So we are saying to the PPP let us see if we can find areas where we can cooperate. That is the broad objective.

"The structural form that cooperation takes is something for the parties to work out. At this stage we do not have a formula for this cooperation. This is a matter for dialogue. What is important is that we do have the dialogue."

"Cde. President your image to most people is that of a very serious man and also a very private person. When you went on stage after the Maisha Hazzard concert and told people that you once considered singing in your youth, people said this man is real..."

Explosive laughter from the President. He is amused at the question.

"You are right in the sense that I tend to be very private. Basically, I am an introvert, but being in political life I have to try to be extroverted and cooperate with people. How successful I am at this is not for me to judge. I like the things that many people like. I like music. At home I have a fairly large collection of all kinds of music, classical and non-classical music. I like jazz. And lately I have been taking an interest in African music. My tastes are eclectic. I range the entire field."

"Let me say that I had knowledge of Lionel Richie because my children were great fans of his. I knew of the people popular at the time--Madonna, Boy George. I knew of them. I listened with interest and sometimes I was educated. I have found some of the modern singers quite interesting. But if I were to sit down and choose my own music, I would not choose a lot of them, but then that is just an indication of my age.

"I like Marley. I do have many of his records. I think he was an outstanding artiste. He was an extraordinary talent. There are some other people singing dub music and so on, who I don't care for." Laughter from the President again.

"I have a general interest in art. I am reading a lot now on African sculpture. I have a particular interest in the work that people are doing in Guyana. We have some very good people, many of them untrained but talented. They are producing sculpture that are works of art. I have tried to encourage them by purchasing from them from time to time pieces they have produced. I particularly like people like Lumumba and Thomas and some other youngsters around. They are producing work which by any standard is good, high quality.

"I move around and I am amazed to find in some corner of the country somebody producing sculpture or some piece of art which has been inspired. This kind of activity needs to be encouraged. We must give those people scope to create. And we must make sure that they earn a living. We must not ask them to starve while creating."

At Home, Do you cook?

"I never learnt to cook. I can boil an egg. It is a great gap in my education. As a student abroad I had some disasters trying to cook."

More laughter. This time the President's eyes twinkle with mirth as he remembers his student days. He confesses that he loves peas in any form. He likes cook-up, metagee and pepper-pot and curry.

The half hour allotted me for the interview is up, but the President is unaware that his staff are getting restless. I ask another question. Development.

"As I said in my Congress speech our Founder-Leader brought us out of colonialism, out of a state of a lack of self-confidence and created a nation which has a capacity for greatness. I want to latch on to that phrase. A capacity for greatness. We have a capacity for greatness because we are an extraordinarily talented people, hard-working people--notwithstanding the talk of brain-drain and all of that. We have extraordinarily talented people who are devoted to Guyana....

"We have manifold resources. Land, water, forests, and so on. These talented people and these resources constitute an unbeatable team. What we need to do as our Founder-Leader Cde. Burnham used to say, is to match our resources with our resourcefulness. We have started to do that. What we have done in agriculture can best be summed up by what one of the farmers said at the last Congress

when he was bringing greetings on behalf of the farmers: "Never before in the history of this country have farmers been so respected."

"Our farmers are enjoying better materiel comforts, better rewards. They are able to live reasonably well. And people recognise their contribution to food supply. And all of that has arisen from our food policy. You have got to eat your own food. I remember in 1971 when the Founder-Leader articulated the principle of feeding, clothing and housing the nation and we started to put on selective restrictions on certain food imports, there were criticisms from the Caribbean region. Today no Caribbean Leader will say that we must not eat or grow our own food. The Caribbean states have recognised the validity of emphasising food production, and ensuring that the people consume the food they produce.

"Our Founder-Leader took us through the most difficult period of re-orientation. What we need to do now is to plan carefully for the development of our resources based on the principle of self-reliance.

"We have to start with the resources that we have. The development of those resources will be the catalyst for developing the whole society.

#### Caricom

"We are committed to the Caribbean Community. We've been a founding member. We have been a strong advocate of the movement. We have been a faithful member. The movement of course has had its problems, some economic, some political. But that is not unique to an integration movement. People seem to forget the great problems which the European Economic Community went through. They had to go through a traumatic period before they reached the stage of unity they have now. And even so there are still serious problems and differences.

"But if you look objectively at the Caribbean Community you will realise that the movement has come a long way. It is clear that we have achieved a great deal. We have the framework for greater advances. I do not think we will ever reach the stage where you don't have problems. Some of those problems are not structural. They have to do with personalities.

"Once Caricom accepts the principle of pluralism, that pluralism in terms of how you organise your society, what are your developmental goals, what are your political goals, there is more than a hope that we will advance rapidly. But in facing outsiders we have to act as a body, as an entity. One of the problems in the Community recently is that many individual states have been acting bilaterally. That can only serve to weaken us. But we have to find areas where we can be agreed on policy vis-a-vis extra-regional countries and territories.

"I would like to think that Guyana's role in Caricom would always be important. We have never shied away from being innovative. We have always come up with new ideas and tactics and strategies. Sometimes these things upset people.

Many of them do not understand and so they make criticisms which are ill-founded or proceed to analyses which are made without proper grasp of the facts or underlying motivations. I think some of the things we are doing will have an impact upon some Caricom countries."

On relations between Georgetown and Washington, is there a thaw?

"That would imply that there was a freeze," answers the President with a short laugh.

"I think that the relations between Georgetown and Washington can best be categorised as correct. We have a policy from which we will not depart--that of attempting to be on friendly terms with all countries with, of course, the exception of South Africa. We continue to be Non-Aligned and we continue to frame policy options in an Independent way without reference to any super-power or any other consideration other than the interests of Guyana.

"Now there is no reason why we could not be or would not be on friendly terms with any country provided that country respects our independence and sovereignty. But we are not going to do anything to derogate from that independence or sovereignty. We are not going to promise anybody that we are going to vote automatically this way or that on any issue."

Guyana's new Head of State, Hugh Desmond Hoyte, thanked media persons, permitted a tiny microphone to be unpinned from his collar and then offered us some refreshment.

#### PNC Organ's Assessment

Georgetown NEW NATION in English 15 Sep 85 p 1

[News analysis by Festus Brotherson, Jr.]

[Text]

SOME striking things were apparent in the interview our Comrade Leader gave to Chronicle's Features Editor Claudette Earle last week. Clearly brought out was that behind the genuine toughness of character and reputation for discipline for which Comrade Hoyte is well-known, the Comrade Leader is a private person with likes, dislikes, and concerns most of us have. He is a man of the people.

Comrade Hoyte's concern for the people was already apparent very early

in his stewardship as Executive President by the immediate emphasis he put on prickly problems and his visible determination tirelessly to address vexing matters that trouble our citizens.

The setting up of advisory committees on the private sector and religion arrested incipient alienation among important sectors of our society and invited their concrete participation in nation-building -- something Founder-Leader Burnham had always stressed. Thus, in one early stroke, Comrade Hoyte has lived up to his

pledge to continue the Founder-Leader's work and to go about his new leadership responsibilities with creativity and aplomb befitting a well-groomed yet independent statesman.

#### CONCERN

This concern for people's welfare was sustained by our Comrade Leader when he intervened to help bring more order to a mismanaged rice distribution system. The same popular emphasis was clear in his Congress address when he urged the Police to be more visible and vigorous in dealing with lawbreakers.

In the Chronicle interview, the humanitarian side to Comrade Hoyte, well-known to so many of his associates, was elegantly teased out and presented. A lover and patron of the arts, the Comrade Leader must have endeared himself to Guyana's hard-working and ill-recompensed artists when he pleaded, "...we must not ask them to starve while creating."

It was also good to learn that Comrade Leader is a lover of two of the most popular kinds of music which express in their unique and often experimental renditions and lyrics the concerns, struggles and hardships of working class people — jazz and reggae.

#### YARDSTICK

That Comrade Hoyte is also a lover of classical music was further reassuring. Indeed, if music is a yardstick by which one may measure a man, as is often the case, then Comrade Leader's appreciation for both popular and classical music makes him stand tall and sincere as one who can relate to people at every level of society.

Consummate politician that he is, it was not possible for the Comrade Leader to avoid dealing with political issues in some depth during the interview and with accustomed specificity. But when we learnt such things that he is a man who likes cook-up rice but

can't cook, we got real glimpses of a person who is humble, very private and has a right to be so.

From the whole interview which blended tough politics with common human concerns we have gotten a better measure of our hardworking, disciplined Leader.

He has strengths, humour, and charm — qualities we all admire. We have also gained some indication of how this blend of personal attributes not only catapulted Comrade Hoyte to high office but also has helped him to cope with personal tragedies that most certainly would have devastated lesser men.

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CSO: 3298/73



GUYANA

## PNC ESTABLISHES NEW LINKS WITH PARTIES IN HEMISPHERE

Georgetown NEW NATION in English 8 Sep 85 p 2

[Text]

International relations is an important aspect of the political programme of the People's National Congress since it enables the Party to establish links with other parties and peoples involved in the struggle for peace, freedom and social justice.

International links with fraternal parties and organisations also provide the PNC with opportunities to analyse the experiences of other parties that have built, or are in the process of building socialism. The aim of such analyses is to help the PNC "draw lessons from such experiences."

During the Sixth Biennial Congress, Party General Secretary, Cde Ranji Chandisingh, reported that the People's National Congress established relations for the first time with several other parties and political movements in the Caribbean and Latin America over the past two years.

Evidence of these relationships was found in

the increased attendance of delegates to Congress. Delegates came, for the first time, from Saint Lucia and St Vincent using the forum of Congress to pledge their commitment to the socialist ideal. There were also numerous messages of solidarity from all parts of the region.

During the period between the Fifth and Sixth Biennial Congresses the Party also deepened its relationship with Cuba, Nicaragua and Suriname and with fraternal parties in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia.

These parties and organisations all share with the People's National Congress, the common ideals of non-interference in the internal affairs of states, respect for each other's political position, and the right of each party to adopt its own strategy and tactics in pursuance of its political objective.

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CSO: 3298/73

GUYANA

PPP STATEMENT SUPPORTS FURTHER DIALOGUE WITH PNC

Bridgetown CANA in English 2157 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Georgetown, Oct 3--The Marxist opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) says it wants to speed up efforts at a political dialogue with the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) because a general election is not far away.

In a statement issued after its latest Central Committee meeting, at which Dr Cheddi Jagan was re-elected unopposed as general secretary, the PPP said electoral reforms were among the crucial items in the talks.

It gave no details, but the PPP has persistently claimed that recent elections here have been fraudulent.

An election is due by the end of March 1986. The PPP has said it is willing to participate in a national unity government, before or after the election, to tackle the country's severe economic problems.

Two meetings between officials of the two parties have so far been held, and a third is scheduled within a fortnight.

President Desmond Hoyte and Jagan met on September 23 but both said the talks were on constitutional matters.

The Central Committee decided that the party should launch a determined ideological offensive against the reactionary rightwing mini-groups in the country.

On the worsening crime situation, the statement said: The question of armed vigilant groups was carefully gone into, and the view expressed that these vigilante or community police groups ought to receive full cooperation from the police establishment in the line of arms, training and advice.

The party said the current economic problems were due to the wrong policies of the government.

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CSO: 3298/73

GUYANA

HOYTE, PNC HAIL 'COMMUNITY POLICING COMMITTEES'

Georgetown NEW NATION in English 15 Sep 85 p 2

[Article by (H.W.J.)]

[Text] Last Wednesday night, in Georgetown, in a playground within sight of Party headquarters at Sophia, a campfire burned brightly. And in the light of the leaping flames members of the community--men, women, and children--were chatting about their common responsibility for the safety of the lives and property of all of them.

It was a get-together of the Campbellville Community Policing Committee workers, one of the most vibrant of such groups in Guyana. It was not a gathering of PNC members, although some leading party officers and members of the District were there.

It was an example of how the Party membership is carrying out the role of "motivating the people of Guyana to improve by their own efforts, and through the party, the communities in which they live."

It was an example of what our Comrade Leader was speaking about when he told the Sixth Biennial Congress--where grassroots comrades from all regions discussed policies to guide our work for the next two years--that "The public at large must be able to see for themselves and experience the effects of improved discipline and order in the society...to organise the protective arrangements for our citizens more effectively and visibly."

For the rest of the night some of those at the campfire, including Party members, were out patrolling the area, as happens every night of the year, to ensure the safety of life and property of members of the community.

They were demonstrating--as every Party worker in "out-reach" activities in every community can, must and will do--that it is our Party that brought peace to this country and maintained it over the years, the Party that won independence for our people, the comrades who are working to make a reality of the vision the Founder-Leader had for us.

Vigilante groups like this one around the country, constantly alert and vigilant, are in such ways carrying out the tasks that each of us has to perform, knowing and convincing others that the PNC's policy is best for Guyana.

Their role was set out by Comrade Leader Desmond Hoyte in this way: "The Party has a crucial role in giving leadership in the society...the task of development requires the involvement of all Guyanese citizens, Party members and non-Party members alike. Our arrangements must be so framed as to accommodate all citizens who are willing and able to contribute to this task. As we in the Party proceed with our work, we must not lose the benefit of the wisdom, expertise and experience of people of goodwill. We must consider it our duty to encourage them to work along with us in the larger national interest."

Comrades such as those who organised and attended last Wednesday night's activity in Campbellville under the leadership of Cde Junior Garret are making it possible for all to see that the Party's motto IN SERVICE OF PEOPLE is no more a slogan but a living reality.

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CSO: 3298/74

GUYANA

HOYTE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS MEETS

Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 22 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

PRESIDENT Desmond Hoyte's Advisory Committee on Religious Affairs held its inaugural meeting yesterday morning at the Presidential Secretariat, where members pledged their support of and co-operation with the Government in the solution of problems which are within their areas of competence.

There was general discussion about the role the committee could play in National Development.

During the meeting, members of the committee elected the Reverend Gilbert Harris as its Chairman with the Reverend Franklin Roberts, Chairman and General Superintendent of the Methodist Church in Guyana as the Vice-Chairman. Comrade Chandra Persaud of the Guyana Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha and Brenda Aaron of the Brahma

Kumaris Spiritual University were elected Secretary and Assistant Secretary, respectively.

The members agreed that they would meet on Wednesday, September 25, 1985, to work out the parameters governing their operations and also to identify priority areas.

President Hoyte said that while he hopes that the Committee would be able to advise him on specific matters, he envisages a wider role for them in which they would be the initiators of policy proposals for submission to Government.

Members of the Committee expressed pleasure at being asked to serve. They pledged support and made many valuable suggestions and proposals. They also raised issues concerning the problems of youth, economics and other general social concerns.

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CSO: 3298/74



GUYANA

## HOYTE GIVEN 'ROUSING WELCOME' IN VISIT TO MINING TOWN

### Plans for Linden Visit

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 25 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

**PRESIDENT** Desmond Hoyte will begin a three-day visit of the bauxite mining town of Linden tomorrow. It was announced last night. At a later date, the President will pay visits to the other bauxite communities at Kwakwani and Everton.

Over the three-day period, Cde. Hoyte will tour housing areas in the Amelia's Ward and the One Mile extension areas. He is also expected to visit the Mackenzie and Wismar Hospitals, the Wismar and Mackenzie Markets and private manufacturing businesses.

Comrade Hoyte will

devote an entire day to touring the Linden bauxite mines, plant and offices, where he will hold discussions with management and non-management workers.

The President will be accompanied by Minister of National Mobilisation Robert Corbin, Minister of State within the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection, Cde. Malcolm Corrica, and Cde. Agnes Bend-Kirton-Holder, Parliamentary Secretary, Housing. The President's party will also include senior officials from the Lands and Surveys Department, the Ministry of Manpower and Co-operatives, the Ministry

of Housing, and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The tour, which ends on Saturday, is being made in keeping with President Hoyte's intention to visit various communities and hold discussions with residents in an effort to involve them and their various organisations in the task of nation-building.

Cde. Hoyte will take the opportunity to meet with leading members of religious, cultural and economic organisations. On Saturday, he will meet with the Party leadership and members in the area. He will also host a reception.

(GNA)

### Welcoming Ceremonies

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] Linden, (GNA)--President Desmond Hoyte was yesterday given a rousing people's welcome as he began a three-day visit to the bauxite mining town of Linden.

In a demonstration of enthusiastic support for the President now making his first visit to the mining town since assuming the offices of President of the Republic and Leader of the People's National Congress, he was thronged by Party comrades and supporters.

Twice he was lifted and carried by supporters--once by the women comrades of the Party who lifted him shoulder-high and carried him from outside his vehicle to the Party's Regional Office.

For several years Cde. Hoyte has been the senior PNC Member of Parliament assigned political responsibility for Linden.

On his arrival around 09:00 hrs. yesterday at the Retrieve ground, MacKenzie, Cde. Hoyte was garlanded by nine-year-old Alicia Cromwell and greeted by among others, Regional Chairman Pat Daniel.

Hundreds of Lindeners, including teachers and students, lined the streets waving palms, flowers and placards, some of the chanting slogans in support of Cde. Hoyte, the Party and Government. A masquerade band was also in attendance.

"We will win the fight with Desmond Hoyte," was one chorus that went up.

Cde. Hoyte and his party walked approximately 400 metres from the Retrieve ground to the MacKenzie Sports Club ground where he acknowledged the enthusiastic welcome given him saying he had been thrilled by it.

The welcoming ceremony at the ground featured an impressive cultural presentation by students and teachers of the mining town.

### Affinity

At the ground, the President was lifted from the pavilion to a small platform where he was presented with a gift by Alicia Cromwell on behalf of the people of Region Ten, and from where he addressed the gathering briefly.

He said he had a natural affinity to the region--Linden in particular--and the area was very dear to his heart.

Linden, he said, has witnessed "a great transformation" over the last 10 years. And "today, Linden has changed from what it used to be--a rough mining camp--into a settled community," Cde. Hoyte said.

He referred to the improved supply of potable water now available in the town, the reliable supply of electricity and the improved housing and medical facilities and added: "But most impressively, has been the improvements in education."

He told the children that they have a great opportunity for education, an opportunity which millions of children in other parts of the world do not have.

"I want you to take advantage of this great opportunity you have, to cooperate with your teachers, to study and acquire the skills and knowledge which your teachers are trying to impart," he advised the students.

Commenting on the cultural presentation, he said it was a wonderful expression of the great talent possessed by the people of Region Ten, and of the rich cultural life which is developing in the town.

#### Prosperous

He urged the children to continue their good work so that they can make Linden the most progressive and prosperous town in Guyana.

On leaving the MSC ground, Cde. Hoyte visited the Minden Mayor and Town Council office where he signed the Visitors' Book and was given the key to the mining town before proceeding to the PNC's Regional Office.

And as he proceeded from the Party's Office to the Watooka House for lunch, he was stopped several times by residents to share hugs, kisses and well-wishes.

During the afternoon the President visited the pure water supply system and the Retail Centre of Amelia's Ward, and the National Wholesale and Distribution Centre.

He also visited the Mackenzie Hospital, Patnomike Steel Fabricating and Erection Company, Kensaco Company Limited, the Wismar Hospital, the Wisroc Housing Scheme and the site for the proposed One-Mile-Wismar Extension Housing Scheme. During his afternoon's visit to the various places of interest, the President held brief discussions with and offered on-the-spot advice to workers and other residents.

#### Show

Last evening he was scheduled to be treated to a grand cultural show by the region's top performing artistes.

Cde. Hoyte is being accompanied by, among others, Minister of National Mobilisation, Robert Corbin, Minister in the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection, Malcolm Corrica, and Parliamentary Secretary for Housing, Agnes Bend-Kirton-Holder.

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

LINDEN (GNA)- President Desmond Hoyte has promised residents of Linden to pursue and help solve a number of community problems raised yesterday as he continued to move around the bauxite community.

The President, who together with a number of senior Government officials visited the South Amelia squatting area, yesterday afternoon asked housing officials to carry out investigations and submit a report by the end of October so that development can be pursued in an orderly fashion.

Cde Hoyte also toured the Mackenzie and Wismar hospitals where he spoke with patients and staff about matters affecting them.

Several issues were discussed and remedial actions are expected to follow.

At the Amelia's Ward Wholesale Centre and other outlets, the President discussed the availability and distribution of basic food items including rice, salt and oil.

Throughout the day, wherever he went, Cde. Hoyte was given a rousing welcome by residents and school-children who praised him in song.

When the President visited the privately-owned Patnomike and Kensaco Steel Fabricating Plants he saw and encouraged the ingenuity and creativity of local workers. Today, Cde. Hoyte and team will tour the Guymine plant and meet with workers.

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CSO: 3298/74

GUYANA

HOYTE MEETS TUC GROUP, COMMENTS ON ITS 'VITAL ROLE'

Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 22 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

A DELEGATION from the Trades Union Congress led by First Vice-President Frank Andrews carrying out the duties of President, and including Comrade J.H. Pollydore General Secretary, paid a courtesy call on President Hoyte on Wednesday at the Presidential Secretariat.

The delegation congratulated Comrade Hoyte on his accession to the Presidency of Guyana and to the leadership of the People's National Congress, and expressed the wish for harmonious relations with the Government.

The President's team comprised the Minister of Finance, Carl Greenidge; Minister of Manpower and Co-operatives, Kenneth Denny and Legal Assistant to the President, Basil Williams.

During the meeting, the delegation took the opportunity to raise a number of issues affecting trade unions. The President listened to the TUC with great attention.

In response to questions, Comrade Hoyte explained the arrangements which are being put in place to improve the distribution system.

Also, he thanked them for their congratulations, stating that he considers the TUC an important national body which has a vital role to play in national life.



The President that he has a high opinion of the TUC and considers it his duty to ensure that the organisation has ample scope for discharging its functions as provided for under the Constitution.

Comrade Hoyte told the delegation that they must consider themselves as having full access to him at all times. He added that he would welcome their advice and suggestions.

President Hoyte discussed with the delegation, the way in which national life is developing by providing greater scope for participation by the people.

He referred to the establishment of the National Economic and Social Council, pointing out that Comrade Selwyn Felix, TUC committee member, who was among the delegation, is the Chairman of that very important Council.

The President pointed out that the Government had taken favourable positions on several matters which had been outstanding such as the reintroduction of meat increments, increase in meal allowances for public officers, increase in travelling allowances, removal of distinctions between pensionable and non-pensionable employees, and severance pay for workers who were retrenched in 1982.

On the invitation of the President, the Minister of Finance outlined the progress made so far in the TUC-Government wage negotiations for 1985 and gave an indication of the characteristics of the main proposals Government had in mind and which he undertook to submit to the TUC by the end of October.

After Comrade Pollydore had pointed out that Guyana had not attended recent meetings of ILO, the President undertook to consider the possibility of a tripartite delegation comprising Government, employer and TUC representatives attending in 1986.

The meeting which was very cordial, produced fruitful results and concluded with the President expressing the hope that there would be continued dialogue with the TUC in the interest of National Development.

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CSO: 3298/74

GUYANA

## TUC LEADERS STRESS UNITY AS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENS

### Program Details

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 24 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

**THE 32nd Annual Delegates' Conference of the Guyana Trades Union Congress gets under way tomorrow afternoon at 17:30 hrs. at the Critchlow Labour College.**

**Veteran trade unionist, Cde. Ashton Chase will declare the conference open.**

The opening session of the conference will also include the presidential address by **Cde. George V. Daniels**, President of the T.U.C. and a vote of thanks by **Cde. Agnes Bend-Kirton-Holder**, Executive Council member of the T.U.C.

Cultural presentations and musical renditions by the **Guyana Police Force Ceremonial Band** will be part of the afternoon's proceedings.

The conference, which has as its theme "We must, We shall overcome the Challenges" will, over the four days include presentations of the General Secretary's report by **Cde. J.H. Polydore** and the Treasurer's Report by **Cde. N.K. Gopaul**, Treasurer of the T.U.C.

Reports of the Standing Committees of the T.U.C. and proposed amendments to the T.U.C.'s constitution will also be discussed at the conference.

Pollydore on Labor Unity

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 85 p 1

[Article by George Barclay]

[Text] General Secretary of the Guyana Trades Union Congress, Cde. Joseph Pollydore yesterday appealed for workers' unity and emphasized the need for all to make a tangible effort to achieve the desired unity.

He was speaking at a Press conference hours before the opening of the TUC's 32d Annual Delegates Conference, at the Critchlow Labour College.

Flanked by other top brass of the TUC, Cde. Pollydore stressed that unity among workers must be considered a prerequisite for increased production in keeping with Government's policies.

He lamented the apparent division in the TUC which, he said, became obvious "since the unfortunate holding of two separate May Day rallies this year."

Cde. Pollydore expressed the hope that out of the current conference would emerge a unified movement.

He pointed to the effect of what he called "the rupture in the movement", although the Executive Council has been functioning.

In a review of the TUC's activities, Cde. Pollydore referred to the wages and salaries negotiations with the Government and said the talks were nearing an end.

Another member of the TUC executive, First Vice-President Frank Andrews, said the TUC was committed to socialism.

At the conference opening yesterday afternoon, a notable absentee was TUC President George Daniels who, newsmen were told, is ill in the United States.

Veteran trade unionist and Attorney-at-Law Ashton Chase declared the conference open at the CLC auditorium.

(George Barclay)

Bonadie Speech

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 85 p 3

[Article by George Barclay]

[Text]

**FORMER Secretary-Treasurer of the Caribbean Congress of Labour Burns Bonadie has called on Guyanese trade union leaders to rise to the occasion and demonstrate their ability to meet the serious challenges confronting the nation.**

Bonadie, General Secretary of the St. Vincent Workers' Union issued the call when delivering greetings at the 32nd Annual Delegates Conference of the Guyana Trades Union Congress, which was officially opened on Wednesday afternoon.

Unlike guest speaker Ashton Chase who was critical of the Government, Bonadie also commended the PNC Government for its stand on the economic crisis and apartheid.

The West Indian trade unionist, who was loudly applauded at the end of his remarks made a comparison between Guyana and Jamaica to show the two different ways in which the Governments are dealing with the same economic woes.

"We are living in times in which the level of foreign assistance or investment necessary to stimulate our economies is not forthcoming except with the prescription of doom for the working class people," Bonadie remarked.

In the audience were more than 200 delegates

and invitees including Ministers of the Government and Parliamentarians.

Bonadie stressed that the trade union movement in Guyana has a responsibility and a duty to suggest and recommend to Government, policies which would alleviate hardships experienced by their members.

He added, "You as leaders must rise to the occasion and demonstrate your ability to meet the serious challenges confronting your nation".

In his opening address Attorney-at-law Ashton Chase criticised the Government and the T.U.C.

In her vote of thanks, Cde Agnes Bend-Kirton-Holder an Executive Council Member of the TUC who is also a PNC Member of Parliament said among other things, "We thank Mr Chase for his remarks. He has lived up to our expectations."

The programme was highlighted with musical items by Sheila Grenado, Dennis Parkison and the Guyana Police Force Ceremonial Band.

Praise for Burnham

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 85 p 8

[Text] The outstanding leadership and fearless advocacy of the late President, Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, contributed immeasurably to the advancement of the country's struggle for political, economic and social development, the General Secretary of the TUC Cde. Joseph Pollydore has said in his report to the 32d Annual Delegates Conference of the TUC.

The Conference got under way at the Critchlow Labour College, Woolford Avenue, Wednesday afternoon.

Cde. Pollydore, in his 26-page report, stressed that both as a trade unionist and politician, Cde. Burnham played an important role in enhancing the status of the Guyana Trade Union movement as a dynamic force and an effective instrument of action in the country's struggle to achieve political independence and the improvement of the economic and social well-being of the workers.

The TUC General Secretary stated that Cde. Burnham had certainly helped create in Guyana the basis for an exemplary unity among trade unions in the Caribbean as reflected in the structure and composition of the Guyana TUC, notwithstanding differences in political and ideological orientations.

"It's a lamentably paradoxical situation that the trade union movement which the late President did so much to build, strengthen and unite, was at the time of his death, openly divided," he declared.

One of the ways in which Guyanese can fittingly perpetuate the memory of this great man is to become genuinely committed to the task of restoring the unity of the trade union movement, the veteran trade unionist added.

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CSO: 3298/75



GUYANA

# PNC ORGAN LAUDS HOYTE'S LEAD ON RICE, PARTY CADRES

Georgetown NEW NATION in English 8 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] **WHEN** Leader of the People's National Congress and President, Cde Desmond Hoyte, intervened to ensure that consumers get adequate supplies of rice, he was demonstrating his interest in the masses.

It was Cde Hoyte who told the recent Sixth Biennial of the People's National Congress that the PNC, a Party rooted in the masses, derives its authority, power and support from the masses.

Rice, one of the staples of Guyana, appeared to be in short supply. At the same time, the agency responsible for the distribution of rice, the Guyana Rice Milling and Marketing Authority (GRMMA), had announced that there were adequate supplies of rice in the country.

The contradiction prompted the personal involvement of Cde Hoyte who first visited the distribution outlets, and later, the source of distribution. His investigations exposed the inefficiency that exists on some public agencies and organisations.

The People's National Congress derives its power from the masses. Founder-Leader of the Party, Cde Forbes Burnham, on many occasions had cause to remind the leadership of the Party and the nation that dissatisfaction among the masses often leads to

chaos. General Secretary of the Party Cde Ranji Chandisingh told the recent Congress, "We cannot afford to be inefficient."

And Deputy Leader of the Party, Cde Ptolemy Reid, once remarked that people are more important than things.

But so many senior administrative personnel, rather than serving the interest of the people, (the primary duty of administrators is serving the people whom they are appointed to serve) preferred to exert their energies on maintaining office.

Examples of such acts of behaviour are all too numerous. There have been reports of people travelling long distances to the city in connection with some course of action in relation to one problem or another, often wasting valuable time that could have been spent producing for the benefit of the nation.

Many were told to return the following day merely because senior administrators failed to recognise the inconvenience they were causing these people. Some gave priority to mundane issues to the detriment of national development efforts.

Meetings of General Council, the Cabinet and other decision-making forums invariably instructed administrators to adopt a given course of action. But in so many cases these instructions are not acted on immediately, resulting in the loss of earning potential or valuable opportunities.

At a recent General Council meeting the Founder-Leader was forced to comment on an issue involving a senior Party official who took three weeks to recognise the urgency with which he was called on to act.

Cde Hoyte in his address to the Sixth Biennial Congress said, "The problem of efficient performance in the state enterprise sector is an old one...We expect of (our public sector managers) sound businesslike performances — and a minimum of excuses — in the management of their corporations".

And speaking about the public sector enterprises he said, "These enterprises belong to the people..Their task is to serve the people, to provide them with goods and services of acceptable quality and at prices which are fair and reasonable."

The programme to satisfy the masses gathers momentum. The corresponding involvement of the administrative personnel is imperative.

/8309

CSO: 3298/75

GUYANA

RICE SITUATION CRITICIZED, DISCUSSED BY OFFICIALS

Parris Report to Assembly

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 20 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Colin King]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, Haslyn Parris emphasised in the National Assembly yesterday that "there has been no overall shortage of rice in this country."

Milling and distribution problems, he stated, have resulted in problems in the availability of rice. However, he noted, prompt efforts, spearheaded by President Desmond Hoyte, were made to alleviate the situation and in the period September 2 to September 18 more than 25,000 bags, of 110 pounds of rice each, were delivered to the Rice Milling and Marketing Authority in Georgetown.

The rice delivered to the authority in the period averages 1,600 bags per day, which is 200 bags more than the normal 1,400 bags daily demand for rice, catering for purchases from urban and other areas.

Cde. Parris was winding up debate on the current rice situation, conducted after the Assembly approved a motion by the People's Progressive Party's Reepu Daman Persaud to facilitate consideration of the issue.

The PPP Member spoke of "a serious rice shortage in the country" and of "no proper distribution system." He said rice production was low, farmers' enthusiasm had dwindled and the industry was "a source of income that is not remunerative."

Speaking "extemporaneously," and contending that the issue needed no "serious and profound research," he said there was need for a reversal of current trends in the industry and for an increase in production.

Deputy Prime Minister Parris responded, in the spirited debate which ensued, that the lack of research by the PPP Chief Whip "was reflected in his comments."

He emphasised that available paddy supplies, converted into rice, would exceed demand for the commodity.

Assuring that prompt steps by Government have ensured more than normal supplies of rice to the marketing authorities in the past two weeks. Cde. Parris persist could be explained by panic buying prompted by the recent apparent shortages.

National Mobilisation Minister Robert Corbin, in his contribution to the debate, lamented that while President Desmond Hoyte was making personal interventions to ensure rice got to the people, Minority Leader Cheddi Jagan and others of his Party were "relaxing in the salubrious conditions" of the Black Sea in the Soviet Union.

Dr. Jagan who was accompanied by PPP Front Benchers Boyale Ram Karran and three other top PPP members returned to Guyana Wednesday after an extended holiday of about one month.

And explaining why there is no overall shortage of rice, Cde. Parrie pointed out that at the end of August, there were 120 000 bags of paddy at Black Bush Polder, which, converted to rice, equals 48 000 bags.

At the same time, there were 280 000 bags of paddy, convertible into 112 000 bags of rice, at Anna Regina, the other end of the rice belt. Export demand for rice is about 40 000 bags per month while domestic demand is about the same, Cde. Parrie pointed out.

He later dismissed as "pernicious," "perfidious," and "not right", some allegations that exports of rice were being sustained, while supplies were denied the local market.

Cde. Parrie explained that

at the time the President made his personal intervention to ensure rice was available to the public, though there was paddy at Anna Regina and Black Bush Polder, it could not be converted into rice within the necessary time limit, and moved through the distribution system, to satisfy non-rice producing areas.

He referred to the fact that in February this year the seven-ton-per-hour rice mill at Anna Regina was destroyed by fire and asked the Minority whether they could insist this has had no effect.

And he enquired whether it was true that the six-ton mill of the four located at Black Bush Polder has mechanical problems. Members of the Minority PPP conceded "correct." The mill at Black Bush, Cde. Parrie explained, couldn't mill fast enough.

As a result, the Government approached private millers, and offered premium rates for the milling of the rice from Black Bush Polder. The milling of rice by these private millers is continuing.

Between September 2 and Wednesday, the authorities were able to move 24 765 bags of rice, milled from Government-held stocks, into Georgetown. And over one thousand more bags were brought in from stocks held by farmers.

(GNA)

## Governments Actions

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 21 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Text] Government is taking action to give further infrastructural, technical and other support to production in the country's vital rice industry, Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, Haslyn Parris told the National Assembly Thursday.

Speaking in the PPP-requested debate on the rice situation, Cde. Parris said the short-term initiatives that corrected milling and distribution problems associated with the apparent rice shortages are not the end of government's efforts.

Steps are already under way to:

- ☆ acquire a 10-ton-per-hour rice mill from the German Democratic Republic, by November, to replace the seven-ton mill at Anna Regina, destroyed by fire in February;

- ☆ "resuscitate by great ingenuity", by next month, a four-ton-per-hour mill at Anna Regina;

- ☆ institute a Foreign Exchange Retention Scheme, under which producers who secure sales in extra-regional markets can be credited with a percentage of the hard currency earnings for use in acquiring machinery and spare part imports; and to

- ☆ develop an information base on rice cultivation acreages, yields, demand for inputs, and demand for rice in both rice-producing and non-producing areas.

Also contributing to the debate were Minority PPP representatives Reepu Daman Persaud, who moved the motion for the debate, Isahak Basir, and Government Member, Robert Corbin, Minister of National Mobilisation.

In a brief contribution, United Force member Marcellus Falden-Singh claimed there is "a de facto shortage of rice" which he said had been recognised by the government, and the President himself. It needed

"drastic remedial action", he said.

Mobilisation Minister Robert Corbin said the Government viewed the rice situation with concern and had no objection to a debate. He noted that "several positive measures" had already been taken so that adequate quantities of rice could be available in the shortest possible time.

He pointed out that although the PPP's Reepu Daman Persaud quoted statistics inaccurately to show a small increase in rice production between 1984 and 1984, the figures however, indicate an increase in yields per acre that has been achieved.

Cde. Persaud had earlier, in leading off the debate, alleged that Government was not paying sufficient attention to infrastructure and other inputs to the rice industry, nor making use of the expertise of rice producers.

However, Cde. Corbin pointed to the disbursement of funds to the rice sector by Galbank, the provision of machinery, and establishment of large-scale drainage and irrigation schemes, mainly for the benefit of rice farmers.

The PPP's Persaud, Cde Corbin said, is "proposing what the Government has been doing."

Cde. Corbin told the Assembly 22 new rice harvesters are in the country ready for distribution to rice producing areas. Eight of the harvesters are to be sent to Region Five to cope with larger acreages available through the MMA Scheme.

The Government will not fail in its responsibility, he said, noting that the rice supply issue was addressed not only by the Ministry of Agriculture but also by President Desmond Hoyte.

The PPP should not seek to make "cheap political propaganda", but should "get down to the task of supporting production in the field", he advised.

—(GNA)

## Call for 'Structural' Changes

Georgetown CATHOLIC STANDARD in English 22 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by "Observer": "Change the Structures"]

[Text]

THE CONTINUED existence of long lines of consumers waiting hopefully for a little rice, in spite of the energetic intervention of President Hoyte, has brought home to many Guyanese the fact that our problems are deep and cannot be solved by good intentions alone.

A structural approach is needed, and it will take time (and some luck) to work.

The problem of rice, for instance, is generally agreed by those who know the industry to have been at least contributed to, if not created by, a number of factors;

- 1) low production due to:
  - a) shortages of parts and machines;
  - b) a rigid official net price;
  - c) bureaucratic incompetence, corruption and unfairness resulting from over-centralisation and control of all aspects of the industry, from inputs to milling and sale of the product;
  - d) the exodus of experienced farmers;
- 2) a poorer crop than expected due to unseasonal weather;
- 3) 'smuggling' (internal and external) of rice;
- 4) poor distribution;
- 5) the need to export as much rice as possible to Trinidad to keep the oil flowing.

Thus, in an era when production is severely reduced compared to previous years, and the need to export rice to Trinidad is more urgent than ever before, the local consumer gets squeezed in the middle.

For official intervention even at the highest level to be successful means diverting some of the rice

meant for Trinidad, and that has serious political and economic implications.

In the circumstances, all President Hoyte can do personally is to try to improve internal distribution by attacking incompetence and corruption, whilst showing his concern for the consumer.

This is certainly an improvement on the official arrogance and contempt for the people displayed in the past.

But, as the continued lines show, it is not enough, and we will remain hostages to the weather (and the GRB) unless the deeper problems are faced and dealt with.

That is easier said than done, because they are complex and inter-related.

### SOLUTIONS

However, I believe that the solution must involve :

1) a 'freeing-up' of the industry, by bringing back those who produce the rice into the machinery of management of the industry; there has to be a settlement with the RPA which permits the rice farmer and the consumer to co-operate in managing the industry;

2) there has to be a settlement with Trinidad based on the hard realities of life in Guyana.

If every year we produce less, but base our commitments abroad on what we produced in the years before, economic, and thus political relations with our most important Caribbean neighbour will continue to deteriorate.

To even pose these problems is to demonstrate the inter-relation between an economic solution and a political solution.



The ruling party cannot "settle" the problems of the rice industry, to take only one sector, without dismantling paramountcy and admitting that the PNC is not the whole society.

The present government cannot avoid increased economic dislocation, much less set and meet realistic economic targets without a rescheduling with Trinidad- which cannot be achieved by an illegitimate and undemocratic government regarded as a pariah by the West Indian people.

The new President showed his awareness of this aspect by granting an early and exclusive interview to The Bomb, of all papers.

None of these considerations mattered in the past.

The PNC leadership behaved as if their will alone mattered, and the people were a mere backdrop to their posturings. They kept repeating they would rather starve than submit.

What this meant in reality was that the Guyanese people would starve before their leaders compromised with reality.

This was the Pol Pot Syndrome, West Indian Style (with a touch of Kim Il Sung thrown in).

President Hoyte seems to want to set a new style, more accessible, less imperial, more concerned with the problems of the small man. More West Indian.

The Emperor's heir who moves among the people and weeps. But he will weep in vain if he continues to rule only by the Emperor's policies, and with the Emperor's guards and the Emperor's party.

### Producers' Demands

Bridgetown CANA in English 1906 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Text] Georgetown, Sep 30--The Rice Producers Association (RPA) has demanded a meeting with President Desmond Hoyte to put its case for a greater say in the running of Guyana's important rice industry.

The RPA, which claims to represent most of the country's rice farmers, has attributed the current shortage of rice in the country to the authorities' failure to give it some representation in the industry.

The association criticised government's management of the industry and noted that since the state took it over in 1964, acreage under rice cultivation had fallen 50 percent, to 133,000 acres today.

The RPA said the industry in Guyana could be substantially expanded, but this would require an increase in the acreage under cultivation, better irrigation, and more efficient management.

The association has also complained that it has been denied permission to hold meetings in Georgetown to put its case to consumers.

The Rice Producers Association is now seeking a meeting with President Hoyte to put its case.

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GUYANA

PARRIS, HOYTE EXAMINE SUGAR, RICE, MINING OUTPUT

Incentives Program

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

A NEW production report and remuneration model, worked out in collaboration with the Guyana Gold and Diamond Miners' Association and aimed at increasing production in the gold and diamond industry, will become operational on October 1.

Deputy Prime Minister [Planning] Haslyn Parris has also announced new measures for export-generation in the rice industry.

Delivering a review of the country's economic performance during the first half of this year in the National Assembly on Tuesday, Cde. Parris noted that the new model has come about as a result of an "extensive, but still initial, review of the circumstances of the gold mining sector."

The Deputy Prime Minister noted that "our identification of the main constraints to production" and "the main inhibiting factors to the official declaration of gold production" to the Gold Board has convinced officials of the "advisability of establishing a different regime from the current one for paying gold miners."

The announcement comes

in the wake of a meeting between President Desmond Hoyte and a delegation from the Miners' Association held recently at the Presidential Secretariat on Vlissingen Road.

Cde. Hoyte had assured the delegation of the Government's support in combating the problems affecting the industry's development.

During his report, Cde. Parris had listed gold and diamond as being among the group which recorded "significant increases" during the first half of the year.

Gold production was recorded as having increased by 12 per cent while diamond increased by 38 per cent over a similar period last year.

The principles on which the new model will be based are that:

- ☆ miners who deliver gold to the Board will be permitted to hold and operate accounts denominated in United States dollars in locally-based commercial banks of their choice.

- ☆ 20 per cent of the US dollar-value received by the Board for gold delivered by a miner and exported by the Board will be paid in US

dollars into the miner's US dollars account with his commercial bank. The remaining 80 per cent will be paid to the miner in the current manner in local currency, and

• each miner holding a US dollar account will be free to use that account to make purchases for his business and to finance legitimate expenses including business travel.

The use of the account will be subject to the normal import licensing and other standard reporting arrangements for purposes of normal monitoring of the country's import but no specific permissions will be required for the miner to use the funds for normal legitimate business transactions for himself and his associates.

Cde. Parris said that it is expected that "this added freedom of access by miners to the foreign exchange proceeds from their gold will facilitate a substantial increase in production and official declarations of product."

The scheme is expected to be reviewed at the end of the first three months of its operation and the reviewing of other bottle-necks to production in the gold and diamond mining sectors will also continue, Cde. Parris said.

He recalled the recent restructuring of the rice industry and outlined measures which, in the coming months, should encourage export

generation.

These measures include:

- special premiums to rice millers for the production under contract of first quality rice for the export market,

- special allocation of foreign currency earned by the industry to finance inputs for the industry; and

- application of the foreign exchange retention scheme to rice millers who based on their performance are certified as reliable exporters, and who earn hard currency.

In addition to these measures in support of rice production, Cde. Parris also spoke of initiatives to promote joint ventures by Guyanese and non-Guyanese entrepreneurs.

(GNA)

Sugar, Rice Productivity

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 85 p 4

[Text]

THE performance of the sugar and rice industries made significant impact on the overall level of performance of the economy in the first half of the year, the half-year review of the economy shows.

Sugar production, in the first quarter, was 21.6 per cent better than the similar period last year, combining with other increases in other areas such as mining and quarrying, food, drink and tobacco, to offset poorer performances in other sectors.

Rice production, projected to be 5.8 per cent down this year, because of extended harvesting in 1984 which encroached on 1985 land preparation time, was only 0.7 per cent down in the first quarter, the review presented in the National Assembly by Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, Haslyn Parris shows.

The overall performance in rice in the half-year ended at 26 per cent lower than the similar period last year, the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, told the Assembly.

According to the review, in the first quarter other areas of decline included fishing (19 per cent), forestry (7.2 per cent), livestock (four per cent) and other manufacturing (two per cent).

Delivering the first budget review in a number of years in the National Assembly Tuesday, Cde. Parris noted that the 2.4 per cent real growth achieved in the first quarter was followed by a slowdown in progress in the second quarter.

"Sugar was unable to maintain its first quarter relative performance, even though it still achieved the highest level of half-year performance since 1984 by about nine per cent.

"Rice was crippled by the February 15 destruction by fire of its major seven-ton-per hour milling facility at Anna Regina, and ended the first half some 26 per cent lower than the first half of 1984", he said.

The overall first-half picture featured increases in: sugar (nine per cent), edible oil (472 per cent), rice flour (68 per cent), margarine (nine per cent), beer, stout, ale (18 per cent), cigarettes (20 per cent), matches (60 per cent), rum (73 per cent), stockfeeds (13 per cent), gold (12 per cent), diamonds (38 per cent), stone (77 per cent), metal grade bauxite (73 per cent), and abrasive grade calcined bauxite (85 per cent).

"Interesting and important" though, small increases were recorded in milk (seven per cent), eggs (four per cent), beef (six per cent), pork (seven per cent), fish (three per cent), and timber (four per cent), Cde. Parris reported.

The major decreases were recorded by rice (26 per cent), poultry (22 per cent), shrimp (29 per cent), garments (55 per cent), textiles (15 per cent), and chemical grade bauxite (14 per cent).

Cde. Parris referred, however, to the restructuring of the rice sector, in which three new entities were created in August with the aim of enhancing accounting, marketing, information, quality control and distribution systems in the industry.

"The timeliness and urgency of these measures have been highlighted over the last month by the difficulties experienced in the destruction... of the Anna Regina rice milling facilities", he said.

—(GNA)



GUYANA

WORLD BANK STUDY OFFERS PLAN TO ATTRACT INVESTORS

FL101752 Bridgetown CANA in English 1706 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Georgetown, Sep 10--The World Bank has suggested a liberalisation plan for Guyana which could attract external donors and investors in order to raise U.S. 730 million dollars to fund a 10-year economic recovery programme for the country.

The bank's position is contained in its latest study, "Guyana: A Framework for Economic Recovery," which was discussed with the government a few months ago.

The study said that the Guyana Government over the past two years has been introducing major policy reforms to improve the country's economic performance. This is a reference to a reduction of subsidies, currency devaluation and restructuring of key export industries.

In its calculations, the bank said Guyana's gross domestic product increased by five percent, but the government put the growth at a moderate two percent, due mainly to improved performances in bauxite.

Some of the bank's proposals for the liberalisation programme include:

--Reducing government expenditure from 68 percent of GDP in 1985 to 57 percent of GDP in 1987;

--Arresting the expanding parallel market;

--Reducing price controls with the objective of total elimination of price controls;

--Promoting exports, especially through the removal of obstacles to private initiatives; and

--Reviewing the investment code with the objective of eliminating the uncertainty with respect to the government's intentions relating to the private sector, both domestic and external.

About 80 percent of the Guyana economy is state-owned, largely as the result of the socialist government nationalisation policy in the 1970's. But this has not brought many benefits, and the economy has been in serious difficulty for years.

There is a foreign debt of U.S. 1.2 billion dollars, and the island has been declared ineligible for loans from the International Monetary Fund.

While the World Bank has not proposed any form of divestment, it has called on the government to restructure the public sector and to curtail its expansion.

The rationale behind this proposal, according to the bank, is that the overly rapid expansion of the public sector has had a negative impact on administrative capacity. It is not prudent to continue to over extend the public sector, it said.

A major plank of the recovery programme is the restoration of the bauxite and sugar industries to their pre-1975 levels. With rehabilitation, it is estimated that the production of metal-grade bauxite and calcined bauxite will move to 1.8 million tons and 1.2 million tons, respectively, up from the 1984 level of 823,000 tons and 517,000 tons.

Sugar production, which declined from 340,000 tons in 1974 to 238,000 tons in 1984, should be restored to 350,000 tons by 1995, after rehabilitation.

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GUYANA

IDB REPORTS ONLY 'SLIGHT' RECOVERY IN 1984 ECONOMY

FL171725 Bridgetown CANA in English 1614 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Bridgetown, Sep 17--The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has reported a slight recovery in Guyana's economy in 1984, but held out little hope for any immediate significant improvement.

The IDB's assessment is contained in its 1985 Economic and Social Progress in Latin America document--a 441-page report detailing the economic performance of members this past year and briefly analysing prospects for 1985.

On Guyana, the bank said the country's economy was affected by imbalances in its external sector, deterioration in public finances and inflationary pressures from previous years.

Between 1981 and 1983, real product fell about 20 percent, and government was forced to reduce the size of public sector employment, with 25,000 public employees laid off between 1981 and 1984.

But despite all this, the economy recovered slightly in 1984, with gross domestic product up four per cent, and some modest rise in exports reported.

The improvement was attributed to better agricultural production, and recovery of mining, where bauxite production rose more than 40 per cent in response to higher external demands.

Output in some areas of manufacturing increased, but the industrial sector as a whole, including sugar, remained stagnant.

The IDB said Guyana government policies were designed to increase domestic supply, encourage self-sufficiency, as well as redistribute lands and furnish seeds to farmers.

The bank noted that the Guyana Government moved to encourage bilateral barter arrangements during the year, swapping its rice for Jamaican soybeans, its bauxite for Japanese cars, trucks and spares, rice for East German spares and manufactured goods. The government offered help to Guyanese companies to conclude similar arrangements on their own. But despite these efforts, the IDB saw little hope for any immediate improvement in the economic situation in Guyana.

Revenues from bauxite, rice and sugar will tend to be absorbed by imports of inputs and spares.

Mounting payment arrears will make it difficult for Guyana to get new commercial loans. In any case, such loans will be conditioned on Guyana's reaching agreement for standby arrangements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the IDB added.

But it predicted that gold exports could become an important source of foreign exchange, but this depended on the success of current explorations. The IDB said these explorations have been stepped up with technical assistance from Yugoslavia and Brazil.

/8309

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GUYANA

## NEW OPERATING SYSTEM EYED FOR PUBLIC CORPORATIONS

### Guystac Executive's Analysis

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 14 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by James Henry]

[Text]

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE** Officer of the Guyana State Corporation [Guystac], Cecil E. Douglas C.C.H. has said that solutions to certain problems within the organisation must be found early if the present restructuring of Guystac is to be successful.

He made this statement in his address at the opening session of Guystac's two-day Personnel Managers' Conference under way at the Guysuco Training Centre, Ogle.

The conference is organised so that managers could come together, away from their working situations, to converse, in order to help them enhance and maintain their professional roles.

Cde. Douglas pointed out that Guystac has not been effective enough in the use of its human resources and this has led to serious problems such as the inability of the group to attract skilled managers, the loss of skilled managers and inadequate replacements for them.

He felt that in the establishment and restructuring of Guystac,

much emphasis had been placed on institutional arrangements, but very little thought had been given to the persons who have to make the systems work.

He stressed that personnel managers have a vital contribution to make and a very important role to play.

Cde. Douglas went on to give a brief history of the formation of the Guystac Group, pointing out that the main purpose of the restructuring of the organisation is to allow for more effective monitoring and control of the corporations within the group. The Chief Executive Officer said that he had been made to believe that personnel managers were underrating their importance and their responsibilities.

He expressed the hope that they change their outlook of themselves and pointed out that it was up to them to deliberate over the two days and discuss matters and problems with a view to find

solutions.

Cde. Douglas congratulated the organisers of the conference for bringing the participants together at this specific time in the midst of the restructuring of the Guystac Group, and wished both participants and organisers a successful conference.

Some 24 participants were expected to take part in the conference, the main objectives of which are to sharpen the perspective of personnel managers on the various influences that impact on the personnel functions, to provide a forum for discussion of problems and issues, and to explore various approaches to the job.



Conference Focus

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 19 Sep 85 p 8

[Text]

A NEW operating system for public corporations, under the restructuring of Guystac, will come into focus at a three-day public corporations conference, opening tomorrow at Mon Repos.

President Desmond Hoyte is expected to address top management of corporations on the opening day on relations among executive chairmen, general managers, the Guystac Secretariat, subject ministers, and Supervisory Councils. The councils are new organs through which Central Government expresses its policy to corporations and monitors their performance.

Apart from general consideration of the new operating system, the conference will focus on details of monitoring systems and procedures, and a half-yearly review of performance by individual corporations.

In addition to his address tomorrow, President Hoyte, who is President of Guystac, will make a closing presentation to the conference at the Guyana School of Agriculture complex on Sunday. Among the resource persons are Vice-President and Attorney General Dr Mohamed Shahabuddeen, Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, Cde Haslyn Parris, and officials of the Guystac Secretariat and the Department of International Economic Co-operation (DIEC).

The half-yearly review of performance of corporations will take place Sunday, with five-minute presentations by Executive Chairmen, Managing Directors, and

General Managers on:

- ✧ current performance, including under-utilised capacity, liquidity and indebtedness,
- ✧ systemic difficulties and production bottlenecks,
- ✧ progress of major capital projects, and
- ✧ manpower problems, including skill shortages and brain drain.

Before this, however, various resource persons will deal with aspects of measures towards the restructuring of the Guystac Group of Companies and Corporations, which is intended, among other things, to achieve more efficient allocation of resources, to streamline policy and management functions, and to increase accountability of managers for the performance of the companies.

Tomorrow, Vice-President Shahabuddeen will speak on proposed amendments to the Public Corporations Act.

Also tomorrow, manager of the Project Development Department of Guystac, Cde Godfrey Proctor, will speak on Components of the Performance Contract. These contracts are the principal tool of the Supervisory Councils, as they set out budgetary allocations, performance targets and other requirements and objectives of the individual corporations over a given period.

The contracts, signed by about one dozen entities this year, also include rules and procedures for the Supervisory Councils and Corporations to review the entities' progress.

Deputy Prime Minister Haslyn Parris and Cde P.A. Jones, Guystac Finance Controller, will deal with financial reporting procedures on Saturday.

(GNA)

Hoyte Policies

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 21 Sep 85 pp 1, 5

[Article by Colin King]

[Text]

NEW operational arrangements in the Guystac Group "can facilitate vastly improved performance" in corporations and the public sector as a whole, President Desmond Hoyte told corporation managers yesterday.

The old arrangements were "far from satisfactory" in terms of the financial and social returns, the President said at the start of a three-day Public Corporations' Conference at Mon Repos, East Coast, Demerara.

A set of arrangements, he explained, has now been established for managing the sector and defining corporations' relationship with Central Government, to secure:

- ☆ rapid improvement in the efficiency of the public enterprise sector;

- ☆ more substantial contribution by the sector to the nation; and

- ☆ greater prospects for the sector's "permanent viability".

Cde. Hoyte expressed confidence that with "seriousness, a sense of responsibility, and . . . complete integrity" among Managers, Executive Chairmen, Supervisory Councils and others involved, the objectives can be achieved.

Among the mechanisms and principles provided for under the new scheme are:

- ☆ a single source of policy directives for corporations;

- ☆ freedom from "day-to-day interference or intervention";

- ☆ operation under "realistic financial and other targets consensually arrived at as performance criteria";

- ☆ managers' authority and discretion to make appropriate business decisions, and

- ☆ strict accountability on the part of managers for efficient management and satisfactory business results.

The President said government recognised that the public sector should function in an orderly manner and the relationship between it and the rest of the economy should be "established on a rational basis."

However, the increasing number of Guystac corporations and the location of skills in the sector worked against successful supervision and co-ordination by Guystac within the original arrangements.

As part of the new arrangement, Guystac corporations are now placed in four groupings, each under a Supervisory Council, chaired by the President, Prime Minister, the First Vice-President, and Deputy Prime Minister, Planning.

"The Supervisory Councils are the only source of policy directives for the companies. Such directives will be issued through the chairman, who alone has authority in this regard", Cde. Hoyte stressed to the corporation managers yesterday.

This, he said, was a most important aspect of the restructuring of Guystac, as it establishes with whom managers must relate in the Government structure.

The President earlier noted allegations by managers that they were subject in the past to more than one source of authority, producing "confused and sometimes conflicting directives", or that their "managerial discretion" was "unduly and unreasonably fettered."

In such conditions, the principle of accountability for the performances of enterprises was eroded, Cde Hoyte explained.

However, in the restructuring of Guystac, the corporations and the Supervisory Councils will be bound by performance contracts "the cornerstone of the new arrangement", Cde Hoyte said.

These contracts set out duties and obligations of the councils and corporations to each other and specify "performance criteria" to which corporations bind themselves.

Central Government, through its relevant agencies, is likewise contracted to fulfil its obligations to the corporations in such areas as provision of financial resources and capital expenditure.

The President assured that "within the boundaries of general policy and the obligations accepted under the performance contract, managers have complete freedom to run their corporations without day to day interference from anyone".

Referring to previous allegations by managers of interference and external overriding of their business decisions, Cde Hoyte stressed: "Such things will not happen now. Such excuses will therefore lack validity in the future." (GNA)

GUYANA

BRIEFS

PNC CENTRAL EXECUTIVE—Cde. Urmia Johnson and Hyacinth Goddett have been reappointed Assistant General-Secretary and Treasurer respectively of the ruling People's National Congress Party. The appointments were made last Thursday when the Central Executive Committee of the PNC held its first post-Congress meeting. Also reappointed a member of the Central Executive is Cde. Elvin McDavid, Chief Political Adviser to the President. A Press statement from the Office of the General-Secretary of the PNC stated that approval has been further given for the Minister of Foreign Affairs Rashleigh Jackson and Minister of Information and Public Service Yvonne Harewood-Benn to serve as members of the Central Executive. It said elected members Cde. Haslyn Parris, Deputy Prime Minister and Robert Corbin, minister of national mobilisation, have been appointed chairmen of the Sub-Committee for National Production; and Party Affairs and Mass Organisations respectively. [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 8 Sep 85 p 1]

GOLD INDUSTRY PROSPECTS—The Guyana Gold Board last year purchased 11,132 ounces of gold from the country's miners, more than double the quantity purchased in 1983, the Board's Annual Report presented in the National Assembly Thursday states. Despite outstripping the 5,384 ounces purchased in 1983, and comfortably surpassing the year's target of 10,000 ounces, the board suffered a trading loss in 1984 of over \$1.1 million. Board officials, however, regard "future" prospects of the industry as good," the report states. And it is anticipated that with improved control mechanisms as well as assistance by the Board to miners in the acquisition of spare parts, sales to the Board will continue to rise. Monthly statistics released by mining authorities in fact show that for 1985 the first six months have realised 4,949 ounces of gold, 537 ounces more than were purchased in the first half of last year. The annual report shows that the \$1.1 million loss recorded by the Gold Board resulted mainly because a downward trend in international gold market prices caused the Board to sell mostly below cost. Much of the loss could have been avoided by a strategy of stock-holding until prices improved but this was not adopted because the national economy and immediate foreign exchange needs took precedence. Although there was a loss in the Board's operations, the above-target purchases of gold resulted in the "high volume of turnover" of \$23 million. The sale of gold abroad realised net foreign exchange earnings of \$2.5 million (US) and 596,006 pounds (sterling) approximately. (GNA) [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 22 Sep 85 p 11]

**CHURCH MEETING**--The meeting of the Guyana Council of Churches fixed for September 10, 1985 at the Catholic Youth Club, Oronoque Street, Georgetown fell through for lack of a quorum. However, under the Chairmanship of the Reverend George Richmond the members who turned up had an informal discussion on a number of matters including a request from Dr. Cheddi Jagan, General Secretary of the People's Progressive Party to hold discussions with the Guyana Council of Churches. It is understood that the PPP is seeking to have the support of the GCC in its campaign against the government on certain political issues. Some members were opposed to the GCC further involving itself in the partisan politics of the country. One such member is stated to have vigorously protested to the chairman at the failure to send him notification of the meeting. In the meantime, Dr. Jagan is said to be out of the country holidaying in the Soviet Union. [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 15 Sep 85 p 1]

**GUYANESE CHINESE MEET HOYTE**--An eight-member delegation from the Chinese Association of Guyana, led by its President, Cde Vibert Choo-A-Fat paid a courtesy call on President Desmond Hoyte at his office at the Presidential Secretariat on Monday. The delegation took the opportunity to congratulate Cde Hoyte on his recent appointments as Leader of the People's National Congress and President of Guyana and wished him a successful term of office. President Hoyte, in response, thanked them for their good wishes and expressed on behalf of the Government, appreciation for the efforts being made by the Association in the pursuit of overall national development. During the meeting, members of the delegation, who regard themselves as "patriotic citizens working for development" sought the President's assistance in procuring land for agricultural purposes, noting that Guyana's development is linked to the success of agricultural production. The rearing of Peking ducks and cultivation of cash crops will be an integral part of their agriculture plan. The President told the delegation that their request will be considered, but asked that the Association submit proposals for the utilisation of the land. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 18 Sep 85 p 5]

**ARMS, AMMUNITION SEIZURE**--Commissioner of Police Balram Raghubir yesterday disclosed that five persons were charged over the past week for various offenses connected with unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition. Among those charged are Vincent McGarrell, Solomon Scotland and Desmond Mohan, all of Mahaicony who were charged with larceny of a firearm. They appeared in Court on Tuesday, pleaded not guilty and were placed on bail in the sum of \$2,000 each and ordered to return to Court on October 21. The firearm has been recovered. Hilton Campbell of West Ruimveldt was charged with unlawful possession of two rounds 9 mm ammunition. He appeared in Court and was fined \$500. A Police patrol searched him and found him in possession of the ammunition. Courtney Belgrave of Wismar was found in possession of a semi-automatic pistol and nine rounds of ammunition. He was charged for unlawful possession of a firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$1,000. The crime campaign continues. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 85 p 3]



DEATH SQUADS--The Doodnauth family of Vryheid's Lust on the East Coast Demerara were attacked last Thursday by a group of masked bandits--one armed with a gun and the others with cutlasses. Mrs Doodnauth, her son and daughter were badly beaten and injured. The bandits who invaded the home about 2.30 a.m. demanded money and jewelery. Similar attacks also took place in Berbice at Tain Settlement and Miss Phoebe Village last Saturday between 3.30 and 5.30 a.m. Several homes were attacked. A cutlass was placed at the neck of the daughter of Mr Sanichar and the bandits attempted to take her away. Residents are calling on President Hoyte through OPEN WORD to stop the death squads. [Text] [Georgetown OPEN WORD in English 23 Sep 85 p 4]

MIRROR RESIGNATION--General Manager of the PPP weekly newspaper, THE MIRROR, Narbada Persaud, has resigned as from August 31. His place has been taken by Shree Chand, former GAWU treasurer, and, for the last three years, the PPP representative in Suriname. Mr. Persaud was also Central Executive Member and Secretary for Finance of the PPP. He did not seek re-election at the recent PPP Annual Conference. He is still the spokesman for the PPP in Parliament for Industry, Finance and Trade. Mrs. Janet Jagan told the CATHOLIC STANDARD that Narbada Persaud had resigned because of poor health, but he still remains a party member and parliamentarian. [Text] [Georgetown CATHOLIC STANDARD in English 22 Sep 85 p 1]

WPA ELECTION PLAN--Georgetown, Fri., (CANA)--The Guyana Trades Union Congress (TUC) has been presented with a memorandum containing a wide range of proposals on free and fair elections and good government, by the Opposition Working People's Alliance (WPA). The memorandum being considered by the TUC was submitted at a recent meeting between the central executive of the labour movement and a nine-member delegation of the WPA, headed by the party's current chairman, Dr Rupert Roopnarine. The TUC-WPA meeting was the first in a series which the TUC has decided to hold with all of the major political parties in keeping with a decision of its last delegates conference that organised labour should be actively involved in promoting a political solution to the serious social and economic problems facing Guyana. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 14 Sep 85 p 5]

DPRK AID--The Eclipse Falls Hydro project will be boosted by a multimillion dollar gift package of mechanical equipment from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The equipment will include heavy earth moving machinery, vehicles, drills and mechanical spares. This outfit is expected to arrive in the country later this year and will go a long way toward supplementing equipment already allocated by the Government of Guyana. Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy, Cde Anthony Crawford, said that the joint Commission which met in Pyongyang recently, got the assurance of continued cooperation in every field of development, more especially as it relates to the completion of the Eclipse Falls project. An ecological study will also be done in Region One to determine the effect the project will have on aquatic plant and animal life in the region. [Text] [Georgetown NEW NATION in English 8 Sep 85 p 8]



**SURINAME DEPORTATIONS**--A human rights group in Guyana says thousands of Guyanese living in the former Dutch colony of Suriname have been deported, and at least 11 people died trying to avoid the expulsions. The Guyana Human Rights Association's 1985 report said Guyanese workers living illegally in Suriname were dragged from their homes and work places and stripped of all belongings before being expelled. The report added that the expulsions underscore a tightening of restrictions against Guyanese nationals trying to leave their financially troubled South American nation and settle in other countries. Official estimates indicate 15,000 Guyanese leave Guyana each year but unofficial estimates say three times that number leave. The human rights group also says that neighboring Caribbean countries are taking measures to restrict Guyanese entry because many of them attempt to remain indefinitely. [Text] [Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 9 Sep 85 FL]

**PNC ELECTION FUND**--Georgetown, Oct 6--Amidst speculation that President Desmond Hoyte may call general elections before year-end, Guyana's ruling People's National Congress (PNC) has launched an Election Fund. The fund, opened yesterday, stood at 1,845,607 dollars (one Guy dollar:24 cents U.S.) at the end of the day, with contributions coming from PNC members and supporters, trade unions, the business community, and church organizations. Constitutionally, the poll is due by next March, but the weekly CATHOLIC STANDARD, in its latest issue, said December 11 will be election day. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2125 GMT 6 Oct 85 FL]

**PPP ON SUGAR**--Georgetown, Sep 29--Guyana's Marxist opposition People's Progressive Party [PPP] has urged government to diversify the sugar-dominated agriculture sector in face of more U.S. sugar quota cuts. The suggestion of diversification away from sugar also came at a time when the Guyana industry is in trouble because of low export prices. The PPP said negotiations should be started with other markets besides the United States, and the diversification programme should be speeded up. Recently, the chairman of the Sugar Association of the Caribbean, Harold Davis, noted that the U.S. quota in the case of Guyana for 1985-86 is 20,592 tons, compared to 36,504 in 1983-84 and 30,480 in 1984-85. He added: Caricom (Caribbean Community) sugar-producing countries are seriously affected. For us alone, an estimated total of some 10 million U.S. dollars in foreign exchange is involved. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1809 GMT 29 Sep 85 FL]

**DETENTION OF DLM OFFICIAL**--Claudius London, Secretary for Organisation of the Democratic Labour Movement (DLM) was detained at Timehri International Airport on September 11, 1985. Br. London was on his way to attend the Caribbean Institute for Social Formation (CARISFORM) Formation, Seminar in Curacao. Br. London after clearing Immigration was asked by an officer to identify his baggage. He was then stripped naked and searched. Issues of the Democratic New Nation; Open Word, Day Clean and a letter were seized and the dates of the Chronicle were noted. The plane was also delayed for fifteen minutes because of this episode. The DLM vehemently protests this violation of human rights. There was hope that the New Leader of the Government with the attitude of dialogue would have eased up the intense police persecution. Once more, the DLM calls upon the New Leader to seek the path of consensus politics and, allow basic freedom to flourish. [Report by J.A. Leila, Democratic Labour Movement, Patriotic Coordination Council] [Text] [St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 2 Oct 85 p 3]

DLM AT YOUTH MEETING--The delegation of the Democratic Youth Movement (DYM) of the DLM returned to Guyana after attending the Third Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Youth Conference (CYC) which was held in St. Thomas, US Virgin Island, during August 25-31, 1985. Twenty-five (25) youth groups from sixteen countries and territories made up the current membership. The Theme of the Conference was "YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN FURTHERANCE OF CARIBBEAN IDENTITY. The feature address was delivered by the Hon. Mary Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of Dominica. Among the resolutions passed was one condemning those Governments in the Caribbean that violate human rights and those that do not allow its people, the right to choose a Government in Free and Fair Elections. [Report by Fizool Baksh, Democratic Labour Movement Patriotic Coordination Council] [Text] [St Johns THE WORKERS VOICE in English 2 Oct 85 p 3]

OIL EXPLORATION TALKS--Central Executive Committee member and Deputy Prime Minister, Cde Haslyn Parris, will be leading a high level team of Guyanese technicians to London, later this month to promote Guyana's data package on oil exploration. The team is expected to be away for approximately two weeks and will present to potential oil explorers, the revised Petroleum Legislation Bill, technical data and fiscal incentives which will be given to multi-nationals who explore for oil off Guyana's shores. Oil drilling operations in Guyana have been taking place for almost five decades but over the years, no concerted effort has ever been made to compile and preserve in an organised manner, data collected on exploratory works. Earlier this year, a British-based consultancy firm presented to the Ministry of Energy, technical details and data on Guyana's status in oil exploration potential. This project was made possible through a loan from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development. The report will form the base for the promotional team's work. As a matter of fact, the IBRD, the Energy Ministry and a regional oil exploration engineer, are all equally satisfied with the data compiled by the consultancy firm and the Ministry of Energy is equally confident that it will be able to attract explorers to Guyana. Next year, three wells will be sunk onshore in Region Six where there are deposits of heavy oil. Heavy oil is more suited to industrial purposes like BUNKER C for GUYMINE, GUYSUCO, and GEC. [Text] [Georgetown NEW NATION in English 8 Sep 85 p 3]

CSO: 3298/79

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT, CEMA BUILDING DEEP WATER PORT

PA100405 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 9 Oct 85 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Bluefields, Nicaragua--An important and majestic project that will open the doors to the Atlantic Ocean for Nicaragua is being built by the Sandinist government in El Bluff. This is being done with the help of the countries that form CEMA, in particular, Bulgaria.

El Bluff is a small port located at the entrance of Bluefields Bay, in southern Zelaya. At this moment, the port is only used by small ships because it is not deep enough for larger ships. In the future, 15,000-ton ships will be able to dock in this port.

The deep water project for the Atlantic was born from Nicaragua's need to have a dock on the Atlantic coast to receive and ship merchandise. Currently, Nicaragua can only ship and receive merchandise from its port on the Pacific coast and this involves the costly use of the Panama Canal.

Concepcion Vargas and Francisco Urtecho, Nicaraguan master-builder and engineer in the deep water project, explained that the first phase of the project involves the building of a quay and two warehouses, completing of the break-water, and the deepening of an access channel.

The preliminary phase of the project involves deepening the basin to allow the entrance of 30,000-ton ships, building two small docks with a roll on, roll off [preceding four words in English] system, and the installation of cold-storage areas.

The international collaboration of the socialist countries is once again evident in this important work being done in Sandino's homeland. The main companies involved in this project are the Nicaraguan Maritime Works Enterprise and the Bulgarian Transkomplek Enterprise.

Bulgaria has provided the design for the project, general advice, metal structures, pipes, power plants, and other material. At the moment there are 30 Bulgarians working on the project.

The GDR has supplied the dredger; the USSR has supplied the heavy equipment, Czechoslovakia will send power generators; and Cuba will send tugboats. Cuba is also transporting all material needed for El Bluff.

Two hundred and fifty Nicaraguans are working on this project which will open communications between the Nicaraguan Atlantic and Pacific coasts. It is calculated that this project will cost approximately \$500 million.

Despite the constant aggressions by the mercenaries and the trade embargo arbitrarily enforced by the United States, this small Central American nation is struggling to overcome its inherited under-development and is building works for the good of its people with the help of CEMA member-countries.

CSO: 3248/30

PERU

# EDITORIAL LAMENTS LOWERED FUNDING PROPOSED FOR JUDICIARY

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Sep 85 p A-2

[Text] Although from the strictly formal standpoint the Judiciary is on an equal footing with the other two branches in the government hierarchy, as set forth in the current constitution, it is clear that this branch's status is actually quite low.

Despite the importance of its mission, which is the extremely crucial task of safeguarding and enforcing the rule of law in this country, the present circumstances of hardship and scarcity that plague this sector make it almost impossible to render the services the nation requires in an appropriate manner.

The poverty of the Judiciary is reflected in nearly all aspects and levels of judicial activity, with the inevitable consequences: indescribable deterioration and over-crowding of facilities, with the resultant general discomfort and, in criminal cases, even danger; delays in the processing of cases and the various trial procedures, due among many other reasons to the lack of the most elementary office supplies or to the inability to stamp files, not to mention more important items such as travel allowances and mobility; and, finally, instances of corruption, immorality and all kinds of vices that have an inexorable impact on all those who must rely on our country's system of justice.

Of course, the root of all these problems is the oft-cited and constant economic hardship. This is so even though the Constitution specifically sets aside 2 percent of the General Budget of the Republic for the Judiciary. That allocation is far from being enforced.

At one point during the previous government, the most that could be spared was not quite 1 percent of the budget, less than half the stipulated amount.

If in addition to these considerations we realize that the government is engaged in a vigorous morality campaign, it is truly incomprehensible and even contradictory that a substantial reduction is being contemplated for this sector during the next fiscal year. This reduction from the allocation originally requested would mean that the Judiciary would receive a mere 0.6 percent of the General Budget of the Republic.



Let us look, for example, at what happened to the funding request of the Justice Ministry, which called for 130 billion sols and has now been reduced to just 80 billion sols.

Clearly, cuts of this magnitude, even if we manage to bring down the rate of inflation substantially, would cause the Judiciary to come to a virtual standstill.

The chief justice of the Supreme Court, Dr Cesar Barros Conti, has already informed the Chamber of Deputies Human Rights Committee of the severity of the problem, having met with the group expressly for that purpose.

The representatives are aware of how urgent the situation is, and they agreed unanimously to work with the Bicameral Budget Committee to make the necessary adjustments in the allotments to the Judiciary and the Justice Ministry. It is assumed that this request will receive the attention it merits.

8926

CSO: 3348/10

PERU

## NATION FACING OIL IMPORTS IF INVESTMENT FALTERS

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Sep 85 p A-12

[Text] Because of the oil policy pursued in recent years, Peru faces the possibility of having to import petroleum in the near future.

This assertion was made by the vice-president of the State Petroleum Agency (PETROPERU) Board of Directors, Dr Jose Abramovitz, in a recent international teleconference that was broadcast via satellite. The conference was organized by the School of Business Administration's Institute for Economic Development to discuss the topic "Present Challenge for the Energy and Petroleum Policy of Peru and Latin America."

Abramovitz indicated that according to weighted calculations, oil imports could begin as soon as 1989-1990, that is, within 3 years, if investment in oil exploration is not boosted substantially.

PETROPERU's new policy, he stated, will be oriented toward promoting risk investment in exploration, both national and foreign, in order to head off the danger of imports and to expand proven hydrocarbon reserves at the same time.

He indicated that risk is intrinsic to oil exploration; there is no technical system that could guarantee the presence of commercially exploitable reserves.

Oil activity, he noted, has two characteristics: large investments and the risk that is inherent in the exploratory phase of this activity. For these reasons, the exploratory phase requires private investment for its development, and this in turn requires the establishment of a number of conditions and incentives to attract investors.

During his speech, the high-ranking state oil company executive mentioned some legal and contractual issues related to our country, and the recent rescission of the operational contracts signed with the Belco and Occidental Companies and the OXY-Bridas Consortium.

Regarding the first matter, he noted that the tiniest slip in the negotiation of the contracts or their interpretation, or in the drafting of the

regulations that apply, could cause the state to lose not just insignificant amounts, but hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars.

He called for the establishment of legal norms and of contractual stipulations to force a contractor who does not rationally exploit the deposits he is not interested in, to let go of the undeveloped areas within a reasonable period of time so that these reserves can be developed properly by PETROPERU.

He reported that a bill that would give this power to PETROPERU and also design a new system of incentives for petroleum activities is now ready for debate in Parliament.

The bill provides that the spending and investment carried out by the firms in their operations before the commercial extraction of hydrocarbons begins must be accumulated in an account whose total will be amortized at a maximum annual rate of 25 percent, beginning in the fiscal year when commercial development begins.

The maximum applicable percentage will be determined as a function of the amount of investment foreseen, and the period of time during which it will take place. In other words, the greater the investment, the shorter the amortization period, with a minimum of 4 years; the shorter the time the investment takes, again, the shorter the amortization period.

In addition, contractors will be able to carry out exploration operations on an indeterminate number of lots, adhering, of course, to the system of approval set forth by law in the case of two or more lots.

In this regard, Abramovitz announced that various oil companies have already given indications of their desire to participate in this system if the law is passed.

He also mentioned the rescission of the oil operation contracts signed with Belco Petroleum Company, Occidental Petroleum Corporation, and the OXY-Bridas Consortium.

The reason for the withdrawal is the "erroneous" application of the reinvestment tax benefit established by Law 23231. There is no doubt, he indicated, that the objective of this law was to encourage and channel reinvestment toward oil exploration, beginning in 1980.

The vice-president of PETROPERU was asked what has happened in the last 5 years.

Of the total amount of reinvestment carried out by those companies, only about 10 percent has been diverted to exploration. The remaining 90 percent has been used for exploitation (development of reserves).

The result is that national oil reserves have declined from 800 million to 600 million. In this 5-year period, the contracting firms have drilled a total of 12 exploratory wells, and PETROPERU has drilled 11. In 1984, "incredibly, the contractors drilled only one exploratory well, and PETROPERU drilled two."

The advantage to these firms has been an effective reduction in the rate of the income tax paid by the contractors, from 68.5 percent to 41.1 percent. Thus, the state has lost about \$330 million.

Another factor that is said to have led to the rescission of the contracts is the fact that the contractors derived additional benefits from the situation, including some that were even illegal.

Abramovitz also recalled that the rescission clause gives the Energy and Mines Ministry and the Economy and Finance Ministry 90 days to determine the amounts resulting from the erroneous application of the tax benefit under Law 23231 and the other benefits.

The Ministry of Energy and Mines and PETROPERU are also authorized to negotiate new contracts with the contracting companies within that 90-day period. The amounts determined in the investigation must be applied to oil exproation in such a way that the funds cannot be seized.

Finally, the vice-president explained that the companies whose contracts have been rescinded have clearly stated their intention to proceed with the negotiation of new contracts as soon as possible, and, naturally, their willingness to continue their operations normally.

8926

CSO: 3348/10

PERU

# MINISTER ELABORATES ON POLICY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Sep 85 pp A-8, A-9

[Interview with Luis Bedoya Velez, minister of housing and construction, in Lima, 26 Sep 85; name of interviewer not given]

[Text] The Government, through the Ministry of Housing and Construction, will be orienting its policy toward the construction of basic housing centers for the lower-income sectors and, with input from the private sector, will reactivate the construction of housing for the middle-income classes, said the head of that ministry, Engineer Luis Bedoya Velez, yesterday.

In a dialog with EL COMERCIO, in his office, the minister also said that the present Administration recognizes that it has inherited a debt of between 350 billion and 370 billion soles owed to the construction industry, which will have to be paid as an important step toward the reactivation of the sector.

On the other hand, he pointed out that the migrations from rural areas to the city, particularly to Lima, with the ensuing invasions of property, will continue as long as the Government fails to stimulate a substantial rise in the standard of living of the rural population.

These and other aspects related to the functions of his Ministry were addressed in detail by the minister of housing, in an interview that proceeded as follows:

[Question] What basic line will your Ministry's housing policy follow?

[Answer] Basically, we are going to orient the Ministry's policy toward the fulfilling of the fundamental needs of the least well-to-do sector of the population, through a system of plots with the essential services. These services will be provided in a progressive manner, beginning with water, which is the vital element. After water, there will be electricity, which is the service that provides access to a more appropriate cultural life and to a certain type of security.



Then, in this initial stage, the installation of a system of latrines will be needed, which we will try to generalize, not only in the city but throughout the rural environment as well, to avoid the problem of epidemics and contamination. Next comes the problem of sewage, which tends to be a higher-level problem in this prioritization of basic needs. Thereafter comes the construction of thoroughfares and sidewalks, which will be an eminently communitary undertaking.

[Question] However, this whole process will require considerable time...

[Answer] Yes. This whole process will, beyond any doubt, take several years, as it did in other cases in which urban conditions were gradually introduced into what, in principle, were nothing other than shantytowns and which today surpass even some of the older sections of the city.

[Question] As regards housing construction itself, what steps will be taken?

[Answer] We will be able to construct actual housing through the construction of the mentioned basic housing centers in some cases, but not all, and through the system of private construction through financing that can be provided by the Materials Bank. This entity, one of the previous Administration's more salvageable initiatives, is a very useful instrument for the attainment of these objectives, in that studies we have made indicate that private construction is an enormous driving force in our country, a source of surprising energy, so much so that of every six housing units built, four are privately built. What we will be doing then is salvaging that inclination on the part of our people to work toward raising their standard of living by their own efforts.

[Question] Going back to the structure of the housing policy, how will it address the acute shortage of housing for the middle-income class?

[Answer] There is an entire credit and loan system comprised of the Housing Bank, Mortgage Bank, Savings Bank and mutual loan associations, with vast financial resources. The idea is that, since the Government is going to withdraw from this type of construction, we want to reactivate the construction sector in the area of housing for the middle-income class and up, through private enterprise; because, unfortunately, the housing units being built before now were being highly subsidized, to the extent that the industrialist and the investor were unable to compete, since no one was anxious to build a housing unit for rental or sale, as long as the Government was selling similar units for almost half the price, on easy payment terms and at totally subsidized interest rates. In short, the strategy for stimulating the construction of housing units for the middle-income class must be implemented by the private sector.

[Question] For which this sector requires a number of incentive measures and favorable conditions. What would these be and how will they be implemented?

[Answer] Basically, it will be made possible by the interest-rate reduction policy this Government has instituted. Lowering the price of money will make it more feasible, since, when the price of money is lowered to the levels we think possible, financial costs, which have heretofore put housing beyond reach, will make operations of this type more attractive.

[Question] These plans, then, all add up to a policy whose design differs from that followed by the previous Administration in the area of housing. Essentially, what is that difference?

[Answer] Our policy will differ in design from that of the previous Administration in that we are not going to use economic resources, such as FONAVI [National Housing Fund] money, that were used to build all those previous housing complexes. Lamentably, that enormous quantity of money--some \$380 million--was able to build only some 28,000 housing units. Thus we saw that the chance of owning a home under those conditions amounted to nothing more than a lottery, which it really was, since for every 2,000 housing units there were 100,000 applicants.

In that sense, the Government was subsidizing housing to such an extent that an apartment having a normal commercial value of 60 million soles at that time was being sold by the Government for 35 million soles, with payments extending over 10 and 15 years. As a result, the number of Peruvians having access to housing was very limited, generating a majority of have-nots deprived of essential services.

[Question] Among other similar measures, the Government has instituted a housing rent freeze. Meanwhile, the passing of a housing rental law is being awaited. What can you tell us regarding both these important aspects?

[Answer] To begin with, the rent freeze is a temporary measure. Any law, any program of incentives designed to stimulate construction must necessarily be based on a good rent law that is as equitable as possible and that provides guarantees to the extent possible, to tenants as well as proprietors. With the restoration of conditions similar to those of many years ago with respect to management of funds, we are going to devote large sums of money at lower interest rates to the promotion of private construction.

In this particular regard, I want to point out that we are trying to restore the use of construction materials that have been traditional in Peru--such as improved adobe conforming to techniques that have been successfully developed, as well as reed-and-adobe construction [for walls and roofs] with a new concept of finish and surfacing--which will lower the cost of building housing, with the same guarantee, however, of stability and resistance to deterioration by external agents, thus providing access to housing for a greater number of people.

[Question] Could you amplify somewhat on the housing rental law?

[Answer] The housing rental law must be very broadly based, since it must necessarily reconcile the interests of the sectors involved. An equitable midpoint must be defined that will permit the proprietor to invest soundly in real estate, with a view to making a reasonable profit on his investment, without giving rise to the cases of extortion and abuses that, unfortunately, often occur during periods of high inflation.

[Question] Do you have any information as to the present status of the future law?

[Answer] Congress is studying a housing rent bill that dates back to the previous Administration. Technical committees are studying the process as an integrated whole. We shall see what can be done to bring the law into conformity with the expectations of the investors, since one who builds a house for rental purposes is not necessarily a magnate.

[Question] On the other hand, Mr Minister, Lima and other cities in the country suffer periodic waves of invasion of public and private land. What can be done to avoid the continued occurrence of acts of this type?

[Answer] In this regard, we are fundamentally face to face with a problem of migration of rural dwellers to the cities. And these migrations to Lima, for example, are going to continue to the extent that the Government fails to stimulate, as it indeed is stimulating at this time, a rise in the standard of living of the rural dweller. If we guarantee the farmer fair prices for his products, then the rural areas can logically be expected to again become a source of well-being for all their inhabitants, and they will not find themselves compelled to abandon their rural lands to come to the cities. Furthermore, I believe that if sufficient rural incentives can be created, many of the migrants who are presently crowded into shantytowns will return to their native villages.

[Question] Assuming such a situation, those returning to their homesteads will require housing. How will the Government provide them with the necessary backing?

[Answer] The basic housing centers we have already mentioned will be implemented throughout the Republic. Here I would like to point out that we also consider the supplying of potable water to be the first step toward public health, so that it is also our responsibility to provide our rural dwellers with the water they need. It is a known fact that the causes of the higher mortality rate among the rural population stem from stomach ailments. It is calculated that 190 infants per thousand, throughout the country die, fail to reach the end of their first year of life, because of gastrointestinal disorders. Thus, providing them with water means providing them with a basic element of health.

[Question] It is a known fact that the construction industry is in financial difficulties because of substantial sums owed it by the Government. What solution looms in this case?

[Answer] To begin with, the Government acknowledges having inherited a very sizable debt in this sector. Since fortunately there is now a specific provision that limits the payment on our foreign debt to 10 percent of the value of our exports, this means that the differential between what we were paying before and what we will be paying in the future will be available to us and sufficient to stimulate the country's domestic industry, beginning with the fact that the debt the Government acknowledges owing to industrialists, and particularly the builders, must be paid.

[Question] What is the sum total of this acknowledged indebtedness?

[Answer] It is estimated at this time that the Government owes between 350 billion and 370 billion soles. But I feel that if we succeed in reactivating the country's economy through the mechanisms I have explained, possibly this will give rise to the construction of thousands of housing units in Lima and throughout the country, wherever private initiative begins to operate.

9399

CSO: 3348/11

PERU

# BRIEFS

'BILL-CHECKS' REPLACE SCARCE CURRENCY--These are the "bill-checks" that are now in circulation, having been issued by two local banks with the backing of the Central Reserve Bank in order to overcome the temporary currency shortage. As our newspaper has reported, these "bill-checks" are accepted all over, and come in denominations of 50,000, 100,000, 200,000, 500,000 and 1,000,000 sols. They can be used in all transactions at any level. The issuance was authorized by a supreme decree, which states that up to 1 trillion sols may be issued in "circular cashier's checks" or "bill-checks," as they were dubbed by Central Reserve Bank President Richard Webb Duarte. The checks are endorsed by the president of the Central Reserve Bank, the general manager, and one of the directors. They are drawn against the Central Reserve Bank. Printed on stamped specie paper with a watermark, the "bill-checks" are now part of our daily life. When they disappear as the bills ordered from foreign factories begin arriving, they will become a collector's item. In the history of our country's coins and bills, the "bill-check" or circular check was used in 1914, in the middle of World War I. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Sep 85 p F-1] 8926

LAW DECREES FEMININE TITLES--Any title involving a woman must carry the feminine gender if that is grammatically possible, says Law No. 24310. The new law was promulgated by the Standing Committee of Congress last July, and was published yesterday in the official gazette EL PERUANO. Article 1 of this law states: "The designation of any honor, academic degree, title, office, public function, post, job or other occupational or labor activity, no matter what its origin or level, shall be expressed, in the case of a woman, in the feminine gender, if that is gramatically possible." The law also provides that women have the right to use the designations corresponding to them, in accordance with the aforementioned article, even if the degrees, titles, election, appointment or hiring took place before this law came into effect. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 21 Sep 85 p A-1] 8926

CSO: 3348/10



ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

TEXT OF SIMMONDS ADDRESS MARKING INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 21 Sep 85 unpaginated insert

[Text of radio and TV address by Prime Minister Kennedy Simmonds on 19 September 1985 marking the second anniversary of the independence of St Christopher-Nevis]

[Text]

I address you on the occasion of the 2nd Anniversary of our INDEPENDENCE with mixed feelings of Pleasure, Pride, and Humility. The pleasure I feel reflects the joy which swells in the heart of every citizen of St. Kitts and Nevis because we are indeed Free. It is a crowning tribute to our fundamental traditions of true Democracy that in our second year of Full Independent Sovereignty. St. Kitts and Nevis has been internationally acclaimed as FREEST NATION IN THE WORLD.

The pride is not my own, but the pride of a people who have overcome the travail of the perilous journey from Slavery to Independence. It is a journey which has taken 150 years and has claimed the lifeblood of our oppressed forefathers. The humility is that of a nation standing in awe and gratitude before Almighty God whose Guiding Hand has brought us safely and successfully to the Celebrations of this Second Anniversary. OUR INDEPENDENCE, AND THE TWO YEARS WHICH HAVE SUCCEEDED IT, HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT BLOODSHED, AND WITHOUT THE CIVIL STRIFE WHICH IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE ACCOMPANIED THE BIRTH PAINS OF NATIONHOOD. Our desire for a peaceful transition has been achieved through the Grace of the Almighty.

THE YEAR 1985

This year, indeed, has been one of great international turmoil in which the horror of famine in Ethiopia and other parts of Sub-Saharan Africa has struck the world with dramatic impact. Elsewhere on our Ancestral Continent, the repression maintained by a one-fifth minority by means of an abhorrent racial supremacist ideology has set the stage for an explosion of bloodletting of catastrophic potential in the vast symbolic prison of the Black Race known as South Africa.

The violence which has engulfed the Middle East in senseless killing and inhumanity for so long added a new and chilling dimension with the terrorist hijacking of a Civilian Commercial Flight filled with innocent passengers, one of whom was subjected to a gruesome slaying. That tragedy only served to heighten the scare put into millions of regular and would-be air travellers, in a year of unprecedented disaster for what is unquestionably now the preferred means of long-distance transportation in this jet age. Even the once-friendly rivalry of sporting contact degenerated into scenes of appalling savagery and rioting in England and Europe.

#### THE REGIONAL SCENE

On the regional scene, the Caribbean sustained the sudden loss of one and then another of its outstanding Leaders and Statesmen. The late Tom Adams, former Prime Minister of Barbados, and the late Forbes Burnham, former President of Guyana, were both staunch Protagonists of the Caribbean Integration Movement. This year has also witnessed mixed signs of economic depression and recovery in the United States and other developed countries. The recovery, however, is one which has yet to make its impact felt on the developing countries, particularly the island Mini-States of the Caribbean. We in St. Kitts and Nevis have certainly not been spared the sobering effects of the worldwide economic slowdown.

This is not a time for complacency. The relative Peace and Freedom of our two islands are surrounded on all sides by a tidal wave of international violence and economic crisis. This is the milieu in which we find ourselves as a Sovereign People. Self-determination never has been, and is not now, a passport to prosperity. However, it places in our hands the opportunity and with opportunity the responsibility, to chart the course and sail the Ship of State towards the attainment of prosperity.

#### SHIP ON COURSE

Today, my people, I can assure you that the ship is on course, in spite of the turbulence of the economic waters through which our course towards a better life for all, must take us. One year ago, I was able to tell you that my Government was close to achieving a settlement of the long-standing Sugar Lands dispute. It has been the largest and most critical single deterrent to development which has plagued this country for the last ten years. We followed up our breakthrough, and this year we were able to announce that your Government, following your recent vote of confidence, had succeeded in resolving this matter by negotiation and agreement.

This achievement is of tremendous developmental significance, and is a high watermark of our newly-earned sovereignty. Freeing up the land has cleared the way for the Government's programme of agricultural diversification to go through. This programme emphasizes the role of the small farmer, and is designed to reduce our over dependence on a one season single crop, and open up the rich potential of the fertile slopes and valleys in St. Kitts. This settlement of the land problem has removed one of the obstacles in the way of Government's initial thrust into the area of 'low-income' housing as a means of providing better living conditions for hundreds of families in overcrowded and underdeveloped target areas.

In Nevis, land ownership has been traditionally more broadly based than it has been in St. Kitts because of the plantation structure on St. Kitts. However, the same thrust for local people to own land is being given impetus in Nevis as more Crown Land is being made available to nationals than ever before.

#### HISTORY CREATED

We in St. Kitts and Nevis have created history, by evolving and implementing a system of Federal Government which addresses our particular needs and aspirations. However, systems do not create progress, people do. The people of St. Kitts and of Nevis, as citizens of our Sovereign Nation have a sacred responsibility to the present and to future generations to pool our talents and our resources for the common good.

Rivalries do have positive aspects. They certainly can motivate individuals to higher levels of achievement. However, rivalries must be kept in their proper place. They should not be allowed to divert attention from the real developmental benefits which have accrued over the past five years, in the areas of improved infrastructure, employment generation in Industry and Tourism, expanded levels of foreign and local investment, and unprecedented levels of training to improve the capability of our human resources - to name just a few. These benefits can clearly be attributed to the combined efforts of St. Kitts and Nevis working together for the common good.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

On May Day this year, while most people were engaging in some form of leisure-time activity befitting the annual Public Holiday, your Government began negotiations for a Bilateral Air Services Agreement between St. Kitts and Nevis and Canada. That Agreement was formally concluded by the following day, the 7th May, 1985, clearing the way for the establishment of an air route from Toronto and Montreal in Canada direct to St. Kitts and Nevis.

The inauguration of this new air route on Tuesday 17th September, 1985, was a most fitting and appropriate way to mark the Celebration of our Second Anniversary of Independence. This promising new connection will undoubtedly generate a greater thrust for the further development of a vibrant tourist sector and at the same time enhance our communication links with the outer world.

A major advance for the improvement of our communication system with the outside world, however, will soon achieve the complete modernisation of our National and International Telecommunications Services.

#### JOINT VENTURE WITH CABLE & WIRELESS

I refer to the Heads of Agreement finalised this year between Government and the Cable and Wireless Group of Companies for the formation of a joint venture Corporation to own and operate the Telephone Service in St. Kitts and Nevis. By virtue of this Agreement, Government has received in cash the sum of One Million Dollars from Cable and Wireless together with a 20% shareholding in the New Company, SKANTEL. In addition, Cable and Wireless will, by October 1st, have injected E.C. \$5 Million as Capital into SKANTEL, which will also pay an annual licence fee to Government, negotiated at 2% net revenue.

Existing Government and Cable and Wireless Technical Staff have been absorbed into the New Company. In addition the Board of Directors will be comprised as follows:

- 2 Directors to represent St. Kitts
- 1 Director to represent Nevis
- 4 Cable and Wireless Directors

The Agreement requires the provision of immediate relief expansion in St. Kitts and in Nevis.

A major feature of the arrangement is the introduction and installation of direct dialling, by means of a new digital system among the most modern in the world. The initial capacity of 5,000 lines is expected to be in place within two years of October 1st. A Capital Expenditure of some Fifty Million E.C. Dollars will be spent by Cable and Wireless to establish this much-needed and vital component of our infrastructural facilities. Phased increases in the Telephone Tariffs will help to accommodate and sustain the advantages which are to be gained from the enormous improvements in the quality and efficiency of service.

The first increase, I understand, will take effect in November and will be instituted at 30% , with a subsequent increase to be levied when the new digital system becomes fully operational in Basseterre. Our new and improved

system of Telecommunications will prove to be a lynchpin in our initiatives for attracting and keeping meaningful investment within our shores.

#### FOREIGN AFFAIRS ARENA

Our strides into the arena of Foreign Affairs have been notable and consistent. Our perceptions of our best national interests have motivated us to cement our traditional ties and to establish new friendships and create new opportunities for cooperation in Economic, Cultural and Social Development. In a short while from now, your Government will be represented at the Fortieth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Our Permanent Representative His Excellency Dr. William Herbert will make his first Address to that august body on our behalf. Immediately thereafter, Ambassador Herbert and I will visit Japan, seeking the cultivation of greater economic cooperation with that dominant world economic power.

Following our mission to Tokyo, we will proceed to the forthcoming World Bank and IMF Meetings in Seoul, the Capital of the Republic of Korea. After that, our packed schedule leads on to Nassau in the Bahamas for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting. In all of these forums we will be seeking to advance the economic goals and objectives of St. Kitts and Nevis.

#### RESPECT FOR LAW AND ORDER

Here at home, we will continue to foster and maintain a climate conducive to steady economic growth in the context of respect for Law and Order. Let us all put our shoulders to the wheel, in the knowledge that the productivity of our nation will determine the measure of our advancement, and that our productive capacity, when all is said and done, is the aggregate of individual effort and resourcefulness. We have to work together if we are to maintain the stability and the unity of purpose which are vital to the attainment of our national objectives for the development of our people. We do ourselves and our country a grave disservice if we fritter away our energies and our scarce resources on non-productive divisiveness.

#### VISIT OF H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH II

In just over one month from today - on October 23rd - St. Kitts and Nevis will be visited by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. It will be only the second time in our history that this country will have welcomed a Reigning Monarch. She comes to us on this occasion as Queen of St. Kitts and Nevis and Head of the Commonwealth of Nations. I ask you to extend your customary friendly welcome and warm hospitality so that her stay in "Our Land Of Beauty, Where Peace Abounds .....", though brief, will be pleasant and memorable.



Fellow Citizens, the upholding of the inherent dignity of our Nation and of each individual in it must be the aim of every patriotic Kittitian and Nevisian. Through the cultivation of our own skills and the upliftment of the less fortunate among us, we CAN achieve a better quality of life for all.

I trust that the occasion of our Second Anniversary will inspire us to reach deep within ourselves and produce our best and greatest efforts in the service of our beloved country of St. Kitts and Nevis.

G O D    B L E S S    Y O U!

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CSO: 3298/080

ST CHRISTOPHER-NEVIS

BRIEFS

MINISTER TO TAIWAN--Two Ministers of Government, the Honourable Sidney Morris, Minister of Education, Health and Community Affairs, and the Honourable Fitz-Roy Jones, Minister of Trade and Industry leave here tomorrow for an Official Visit to the Republic of China (Taiwan). The Ministers received invitations from the Honourable George Tuan, Charge d'Affaires for the Republic of China and who resides at the Chinese Embassy located at Taylor's Range, Basseterre. The invitations are another display of friendship and goodwill by the Government and People of the Republic of China. [Text] [Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 21 Sep 85 p 12]

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CSO: 3298/080

ST LUCIA

## TEXT OF MALLET STATEMENT ON CARICOM TRADE PROBLEMS

Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 21 Sep 85 pp 4, 5

[Text]

THE St. Lucia Government says it finds it extremely difficult to make "further costly concessions" in the interest of regional trade and that it supports the multilateral approach for the solution of these difficulties.

A statement from the Ministry of Trade George Mallet this week added that St. Lucia had no desire to comply fully with all the requirements of the Nassau Accord and not adhere to the free trade provisions of the Caribbean Community Treaty.

The statement referred to recent regional comments relating to CARICOM trade with particular reference to the Nassau Accord which some governments, including St. Lucia have not yet signed.

The statement said:

"An analysis of the most recent trade statistics indicates that whilst St. Lucia's total exports are reaching unprecedented high levels, we are going through our worst trading experience in CARICOM within recent years. Exports, particularly to the more developed countries of the region, have dropped to critically low levels whilst imports from the region have continued to rise.

This pattern began emerging as far back as 1983 when payments and licencing difficulties in the region were beginning to worsen.

The reaction of regional governments was firstly, to renew their commitment to free trade, the principle on which the very Common Market is premised, and secondly to seek a restoration to previous levels of trading within the Community. A range of items of export interest to CARICOM countries was agreed upon which members were to seek to purchase from regional rather than extra-regional sources.

By the time of the fifth Heads of Government Conference in July 1984, the difficulties had not been resolved but the conference was able to crystallize the solutions into a package now popularly known as the "Nassau Accord" which, as conceived, was an agreement by all countries to remove restrictions to trade which certain member countries had introduced in breach of the CARICOM Treaty, and to undertake to introduce a set of measures the most important of which were:-

1. An increase of 15% to the ad valorem customs rate of duties on a number of items'

2. The harmonisation of the tariff on margarine at 30%;

3. A reduction by 50% of the rate of import duties on products listed at Schedule III of the Annex to the Treaty;

4. In respect of those products for which there was a 20% added value qualifying requirement under the Origin Rules for the LDCs, that those be increased to 30%.

In Nassau, St. Lucia, in full expectation of reciprocity and accepting the existence of a consensus on a commitment to the reactivation, restoration and growth of intra-caricom trade, had agreed to the package including its range of concessions and commitments.

However, since then, there have been certain developments which call into question some of the implicit premises on which the Accord was based and consequently the advisability of proceeding with the full set of provisions of the Nassau package. There are three in particular:-

1. Since Nassau there have been further devaluations of the Jamaica dollar thereby making St. Lucia's exports to Jamaica no longer competitive with domestic products or extra-regional imports except for coconut oil. In the case of coconut oil however, Jamaican importers for this year have not purchased any of our supplies notwithstanding that Jamaica was allocated part of St. Lucia's surplus;

2. Access to the Trinidad market has steadily grown more difficult since Nassau particularly in the case of garments. An eighteen-month ban was placed on imports although it was stated that special allowances would be made for CARICOM imports. In a very recent discussion with his Trinidad and Tobago counterpart, St. Lucia's Trade Minister was assured that Trinidad would favourably consider the award of licences for garments up to certain limits including those categories which are considered sensitive. This arrangement would however be guaranteed only for the rest of 1985. Despite comments to the contrary, this Ministry has no verified evidence of the issue of licences as promised;

3. Up till the start of the trade problems, St. Lucia had been increasing its exports to the

MDCs in particular Trinidad and Tobago. Now however, we are experiencing forced reductions in our exports accompanied by spectacular increases in imports. For example in 1983, our exports to Jamaica were valued at \$10.3 million;

in 1984 that figure dropped to \$3.7 million. We exported to Trinidad and Tobago in 1983 \$13.5 million. This fell to \$8.7 million in 1984. Between those two countries alone, we had a drop of exports in 1984 of \$11.4 million. This pattern continued into 1985 and for the first half of this year the drop in exports in the case of Trinidad and Tobago has been another \$2.8 million or 65% and Jamaica \$2.8 million or 82.3% drop by comparison with the same period for 1984. In other words between 1983 and June of this year, our exports to these two CARICOM countries fell by \$16.8 million.

In the meantime, this Government has sought to achieve, not only the most important objective of the Nassau Agreement — which is the increasing access of CARICOM goods to the local St. Lucia market — but it also has taken definite steps to bring about the diversion of imports away from extra-regional sources to CARICOM sources, the results of which can clearly be seen in the import statistics.

What St. Lucia has in fact done is to make concessions to some of its sister states in the region over and above its commitments under the Treaty of Chaguaramas as part of an understanding that those member states that had been denying St. Lucia exports the right to free access to which St. Lucia is in fact entitled under the Treaty of Chaguaramas, would be induced to honour their obligation under the Treaty.

Against this background of events since Nassau, and taking into account their grave adverse effects on employment and consequently on the economy generally, the question must be addressed as to whether the total cost of implementation of the Nassau Accord would be unreasonable for St. Lucia to bear.

Government has a responsibility to shield the consumer from excessive harm that could result from tariff increases if there is no guarantee of reciprocity or any certainty that all other member states of CARICOM will adhere to their obligations.

Accordingly, government finds it extremely difficult to make further costly concessions than it already has done, when St. Lucian exporters are faced with certain impediments imposed by some CARICOM governments designed to prevent our exports from enjoying the free market access to which they are entitled.

The Government of St. Lucia strongly supports the multilateral approach for the solution of trading problems and continues to be committed to the process started at the level of Heads of Government for the restoration and reactivation of CARICOM Trade.

Notwithstanding our current adverse CARICOM trade balance but in a spirit of regional cooperation, Government will take the following steps:-

1. Continue its adherence to Article 21 of the Treaty Annex which prohibits import restrictions on CARICOM goods;
2. Increase the value added requirement for goods imported from the LDCs; from 20 to 30%;
3. Reduce by 50% the import duty rates on Schedule III products imported from the MDCs;
4. Amend the Customs Tariff, following a further assessment on an itemized basis of the products proposed for the 15% increase in the rates of import duties.

St. Lucia has no desire to finalize all the legalistic arrangements required by the Nassau Accord and not adhere to the free trade provisions of the CARICOM Treaty. To do so would be to make a mockery of the Nassau Accord and at best would reflect merely an obsession with its trappings but not with its substance.

As already emphasized, St. Lucia has achieved the prime objective of the range of measures proposed, that is, the diversion of trade to the benefit of our CARICOM neighbours."

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CSO: 3298/081

ST LUCIA

## BANK REPORTS POSITIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR 1984

Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 7 Sep 85 p 4

[Text]

THERE was a significant increase in the economic activity of the country during last year.

That's the word coming from Director of Finance, Mr. Dwight Venner, when he addressed the fourth annual general meeting of the National Commercial Bank (NCB) Tuesday.

Speaking on behalf of the Bank's shareholders, Mr. Venner said that the increase has led to one of the highest growth rates experienced in CARICOM countries a rate of 4.9 percent.

He said that the major sectors, bananas and tourism, were very buoyant and this led to a rise in commercial activity. The level of imports, he said, rose significantly from EC\$286 million in 1983 to EC\$320 million in 1984. Venner told the meeting that the construction sector was showing significant strides, adding:

"And confidence in the economy is apparent both from within and without. 'This situation,' he added, 'is clearly reflected in the favourable positions the commercial banks find themselves in with a higher level of liquidity at their disposal. This is a far cry from the situation in 1982 and 1983 when the banks experienced serious liquidity crises.'"

Venner said that the improvement came about through increase domestic savings and movement of capital from outside as the St. Lucia banking system had attracted deposits from the region and from the international community.

He was of the view that there will have to be a movement in interest rates to reflect the supply and demands of loanable funds, and "this is beginning to happen as the banks are beginning to adjust their deposit rates."

He said that while the economy was recovering apace there was still a "significant cloud" on the horizon which was the state of the public sector.

He said that since 1981 the public sector has been carrying the economy as the winds of recession had ravaged both the domestic and international economies. Venner added that as

activities in the private sector slackened and the major export sectors stagnated, the public sector had of necessity to maintain its activities to prevent further downturn in the economy.

"However," he continued, "as the economy has recovered and continues to show positive signs of growth, the public sector has been left with debts incurred during the recession. The public sector, therefore, has to adjust before it becomes a drag on the economy. This adjustment will involve the bringing into balance of revenues and expenditures to affect the surplus for capital spending and the wiping out of accumulated arrears."

He said that this adjustment would have to take the form of stringent expenditure controls and attempts to increase revenue from existing sources by improved tax administration.

According to Venner, for this adjustment process to be effective, the private sector will have to take up the running and engage in a level of economic activity which will push the rate of growth on while the public sector tries to pull itself into equilibrium.

"This is where the banking system must play a critical role as it must engage in a process of innovative banking to meet the circumstances as they present themselves. The fact that the system is liquid is an added advantage which must not be squandered. This is a point of some significance for the mode of development which is being promoted is that of the mixed economy in which, while the public sector plays a pivotal role, the private sector must engage in creative entrepreneurial activities to propel the level of production."

Venner said that the viability of the public sector and the economy was critically dependent on increasing level of production and productivity.

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CSO: 3298/081



ST. LUCIA

## TEACHERS UNION PROBES ACTIONS OF RESIGNED OFFICIAL

Castries CRUSADER in English 5 Oct 85 p 4

[Text]

Following the resignation of the General Secretary of the St. Lucia Teachers Union Alfred Jn Baptiste there has been widespread rumours circulating alleging that Mr. Jn Baptiste was under investigation by the Teachers Union for the misappropriation of Union funds. Mr. Jn Baptiste who is also a frontline member of the Workers Revolutionary Movement is at present out of the island and the Union President Mr. Jean Francois has indicated that he has passed the findings of the investigation over to the Union Solicitor and the Police. Both the President of the Union and the Solicitor are also members of the Workers Revolutionary Movement.

In a Press Release issued on Friday the Union Pfr J. John Sealy said:

"In recognition of the need to clear the air of the mounting speculation surrounding the published 'resignation' of S.L.T.U. General Secretary Alfred Jn Baptiste the National Executive wishes to make the following points:

1. The National Executive of the SLTU has not discussed Mr. Jn Baptiste's resignation letter as the circumstances which led to his resignation are still under official investigation.
2. The General Secretary's resignation was effective September 23, 1985 three days AFTER he had been informed of his suspension by the Executive, pending

investigation, dated September 20;

3. The General Secretary was suspended after he refused to cooperate with the President, and Secretariat who had been requesting a formal explanation from him regarding numerous discrepancies in the Union's Finances discovered by the President as a result of an investigation that lasted from July to August 1985.

4. The President investigated five areas of financial discrepancy; and because of the nature of the evidence uncovered the matter has been handed over to the Union's solicitor and the Police.

5. In light of the fact that the matter is now in the hands of the police, the National Executive awaits a completion of the investigations before making any further decisions regarding the General Secretary".

The Teachers Union was one of the key members of the Industrial Solidarity Pact which included the Civil Service Association and the National Workers Union. The Union is expected to discuss the resignation of the General Secretary at a meeting of the National Executive scheduled for today at the Ave Maria School and the issue of a Press Release yesterday seemed to have stolen a march on any decisions which might have been taken at the scheduled meeting.

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CSO: 3298/081

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MITCHELL ADMINISTRATION ADMONISHED FOR DOING LITTLE

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 27 Sep 85 p 4

[Ken John column "This Week": "Friendly Advice: NDP's Economic Philosophy"]

[Text]

Now that the traditional one year honey-moon period is over, the ruling N.D.P. has begun to run into trouble with the country at large including some of its own supporters. Many promises made to the people from election platforms are simply not being met, while an inordinate number of bills are rolling in, not a few carrying the price-tag of political support.

Orange Hill was taken over during a much publicised "N.D.P. Land Festival" last May, but not much appears to have been done so far by way of passing on tangible benefits to workers in the area.

One can readily anticipate the pat answers: that everything takes time, and that Rome was not built in a day. But the people whose livelihood is on the line are owed an explanation as to how far the O.A.S. and other funding agencies have gone in helping to kick off a meaningful programme of land reform, or whether it would be more practical to swallow pride and

welcome back the Danes. The climate of uncertainty and period of betweenity are driving people up the wall.

Granted, Mount Ben-tinck had to be closed down for compelling economic reasons, albeit at staggering social costs. The human element would suggest that every effort be made, firstly, to ensure that some relief be given by way of a speedy settlement of bona fide claims for severance pay; secondly, that the people's hopes be kept constantly alive by current information as to the alternatives which they face, be it winter vegetables or whatever.

Generally, there has been a severe cut-back in public sector spending in the name of good house-keeping.

However,

contrary to the expectations of the Government, the private Sector is not about to take up any of the slack. It religiously pursues a play-safe policy as if risk-taking were not the price of growth.

Nor are the one or two enclave industries which have already come on stream likely to prove more than a mere drop in the bucket. And neither the Colombian connection nor the airy promises of collaborations based on C.B.I. is cut out to tailor to the pressing need to generate lasting jobs by the creation of linkages in the economy.

The new Administration must realise that it is committed to walking a tight-rope in a situation in which there is no safety net to break the fall. In the performance of this balancing act, one false step could spell doomsday. We have, therefore, to be ever so careful, there being little margin to spare and only cramped elbow space in which to manoeuvre.

In the circumstances, sound long-term planning in the absence of short-term measures to keep the pot on the fire could prove counter-productive and even disastrous. It is, of course, essential to clean up and plan ahead, but while all this is going on people still have to live and the economy has somehow to be kept ticking over. So while deep concern must be shown over our future, equally serious attention must be directed at the present without which the whole exercise becomes academic and degenerates into frustrating futility and self-defeatism.

Personally, I do not believe that the masses expect the N.D.P. to bring off an economic miracle.

The chastening experiences of the recent past have caused them to devalue their hopes and lower their sights. Moreover, they are painfully aware of the sad inheritance of the present regime. All they cry out for at the moment is a little respite from this hard guava crop. A little something to keep the wolf daily from the door.

It is suggested that the State must lead the way with investment in the public sector to trigger off some stimulation of our stagnating economy. It is becoming increasingly clear that our Prime Minister is setting too great store by the "initiative" of the Local Businessmen who simply would not bite. Or, more correctly, the private sector is eating off all the bait, as they see it, without taking the hook. A fundamental shift in Government's economic philosophy which rests on a questionable premise, is in order: the sooner, the better.

## THE TROUBLED SPEAKERSHIP

The speakership of our House of Assembly in the age of Independence is a very important position, a hallowed institution that should never be dragged into the political arena.

For that reason, this column had frowned upon the appointment of Olin Dennie last year August. Dennie had been defeated at the polls, yet was called upon to preside over a House that included his victor at the elections against whom he probably entertained hopes of running again in 1989. That circumstance together with Dennie's youthfulness and inexperience, the waspish attitude of the Opposition, and the intolerance of some Government front benchers did not make for the smooth running of the House.

The bacchanal broke out at the last Budget session which was largely described as a repeat of the Carnival. And the upshot has been an Opposition resolution of no-confidence in the Speaker based on allegations of partiality in the House and misbehaviour in a private land deal. The debate was to have taken place on Thursday September 26.

It would appear that the top-brass of the ruling N.D.P. felt that the second of the charges laid against Dennie, though clinically untrue, had a sufficient factual base to create suspicion and embarrass the Government. So Dennie was persuaded, however reluctantly to tender his resignation and checkmate the Opposition's move.

But, additionally, Dennie sought to save face by explaining to the people in a public release that he had graciously resigned only because he had unreasonably lost the confidence of the Opposition. Whereupon the Prime Minister swiftly responded with his own release that he had "invited" the resignation. Continuing the game of "last licks" over the media, Dennie replied over the privately owned T.V. station that "social and class" considerations were uppermost in the pressures that were applied to force him out of office.

The unfortunate rub to this whole sorry episode is that under the constitution the Prime Minister does not enjoy the power of "hire and fire" over the Speaker. That privilege belongs to the entire House, including the Opposition. Indeed, the Speaker has not to date tendered his resignation to the proper quarter, which is the clerk of the House and not the Prime Minister.

This columnist can only hope that in choosing a new Speaker the Government takes the opportunity to consult with the Opposition, allowing a tradition to build up in which the Speaker is guaranteed Opposition support beforehand. Surely, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition can converse other than across the floor of the Council Chamber where they are both tempted to perform for the public gallery. A word to the wise is enough.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

BRIEFS

TOURISM GAINS--The country's tourism industry has done well for the first seven months in 1985. That's according to the local department of tourism. Some 26,000 tourists have visited St. Vincent and the Grenadines so far compared with 23,000 for the same period in 1984, and increase of some 13%. According to figures released by the Caribbean Tourism Research Centre (CTRC) the average increase for the region as a whole in just about 6%. Local tourism officials have predicted that 1985 will be one of the best years for tourism in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. [Text] [Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 20 Sep 85 p 7]

NEW FLAG--Kingstown, Oct 14--St Vincent's newly revised national flag will be officially raised in a ceremony at the war memorial in the centre of the capital, Kingstown, on October 21, Minister of Tourism, Information and Culture John Horne said. Similar flag raising ceremonies are also planned for rural areas of the state. The new flag, which replaces the one used since St Vincent and the Grenadines gained independence on October 27, 1979, consists of three broad perpendicular stripes of green, gold and blue, with three diamonds in the shape of a V in the centre of the flag. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1605 GMT 15 Oct 85 FL]

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CSO: 3298/82

SURINAME

BRIEFS

FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS WITH FRG--Five financial agreements were signed last Wednesday with the FRG for the financing of small-scale projects. The Republic gave 60,000 marks available every year for small-scale projects. For these financings, especially people's organizations in the inland and districts are taken into consideration. [Text] [Paramaribo International Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Sept 85 FL]

CSO: 3200/2



TURKS AND CAICOS

PDM AGAIN URGES ELECTIONS; FRANCIS RESISTS

Howell Letter to Governor

Grand Turk TURKS & CAICOS NEWS in English 19 Sep 85 p 4

[Text]

September 6, 1985.  
His Excellency the Governor,  
Governor's Office,  
Grand Turk,  
Turks and Caicos Islands  
Your Excellency,

We, of the Peoples Democratic Movement — the loyal Opposition of the Turks and Caicos Islands, through this medium wish to draw your attention to:

1. The low-key played by us since the arrest of the three Parliamentarians in Miami, Florida on March 5, 1985.

2. We kept our cool and calm and advised our supporters to do so, and they did even in the face of temptations.

3. We have watched with sadness the sudden plunge the economy has taken since the episode of March 5th and the dispute which that episode has brought on the country.

4. We have come to realise that with the country in such a plight it is extremely difficult if at all possible to encourage prospective investors to our shores. This is made worse because of the adverse publicity received over the past six months.

5. We watch as the constituencies of Bottle Creek, South Caicos and Salt Cay have been six months now without their representatives.

6. We recognise the badly written Constitution and have waited patiently for events to take the natural course allowed by the Constitution.

We have now reached the point where the Constitution becomes silent and ineffective, except that it does give you certain reserve powers to use your discretion in the interest of public order, public faith and good government.

You will, no doubt, agree with me that the country has reached the point where public faith and good government are seriously threatened. We therefore call upon you to save the country by advising the Chief Minister to call a General Election, or to use your reserve powers and declare the country a state of emergency. Whatever happens, we demand that the matter be put back into the hands of the voters and let them decide to whom they should give the mandate.

The country cannot continue in this way. Investors have voiced their desire to invest in the Turks and Caicos

Islands but not under the present system because of the wishy-washy manner in which some have been treated and because of the lack of confidence in the government.

The respectful, law-abiding and in most cases innocent people of the Turks and Caicos Islands deserve a better treatment than what is being dished out to them. They have been taken for a ride. They have been given a bad cheque.

The Parliamentarians in Miami are in a situation which if they were not already elected members of the Legislature would disqualify them from becoming elected or appointed.

Seeing that those in whom the voters trusted have failed them, we call upon you to give the voters — the people with the power — the opportunity to make another decision.

We look forward to an early reply and action.

Yours respectfully,  
**CLEMENT E. HOWELL**  
Leader of the Opposition

## Francis' Reaction

JPRS-LAM-85-095  
8 November 1985

Grand Turk TURKS & CAICOS NEWS in English 19 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

"GENERAL Election will be called when the time is up, or when I've lost control of the government, or at such a time as I think good." So declared Chief Minister **Nathaniel "Bops" Francis** in an invited comment to the *News* last week.

Mr. Francis' statement was in response to a letter sent to the Governor by PDM leader **Clement Howell** in which he urged His Excellency to advise the Chief Minister to call General Election.

Since the arrest of three government ministers in Miami, and the subsequent conviction and sentencing of former Chief Minister **Norman Saunders** and former Minister of Development **Stafford Missick**, many have been wondering whether by-elections will be held to fill the seats left vacant by the former officials, or if the government will call a General Election to seek a fresh mandate since the embarrassment to their party.

According to the Constitution, the three men may hold their seats, even though sent to prison, until either: (1) they resign; (2) a General Election is called; or (3) they are absent from three consecutive sittings of the Legisla-

ture without the permission of the Speaker.

When asked if he thought that the three would resign their seats, Chief Minister Francis said, "I think they will do the honourable thing."

Asked to comment on the trials of the former official who were imprisoned last week, Mr. Francis said it was inappropriate for him to make any comments. However, he said, in an effort to keep the public informed, he plans to hold public meetings in their constituencies.

He and other ministers were scheduled to meet with the people of Bottle Creek last week Friday and the people of South Caicos on Tuesday of this week.

Mr. Francis plans to make a similar trip to Salt Cay when **Aulden Smith**, the present representative's case is finalised.

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